

Norman Lake Project Cleared for Congress

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Norman Lake Gets Approval Of Secretary

A proposed \$15 millions water supply project on the Little River east of Norman was given the stamp of approval Tuesday by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton, who sent a favorable report to congress.

Terming the project "an urgently needed multiple purpose development," Seaton urged congress to authorize construction of a dam and reservoir on the tributary of the South Canadian river.

The secretary's approval cleared a major hurdle for the project promoters—the central Oklahoma Water Users association — which comprises Norman, Midwest City and Del City, plus Tinker airforce base participation.

Plan Is Explained

Under the plan, a dam would be constructed on Little river just below SH 9, about 12 miles due east of Norman. The dam, over which SH 9 would be eventually rerouted, would provide 85,000 acre feet of water for the three cities.

In addition, it would contain space for 75,000 acre feet for flood control, 35,000 acre feet of space for 100 years of sediment accumulation and easement to contain another 160,000 acre feet of water in case of extreme flood.

A project idea developed in 1954, the Little river reservoir plan has been in the Washington mill for four years and was just recently shaped up to meet requirements made by the bureau of the budget.

Three Years Needed

A favorable report on the plan has been sent to both houses of congress. Should the project get approval in this season, it would take at least three years to build it.

John Malone, manager of the Norman chamber of commerce and secretary of the water users association, said cost of the participating cities would be \$8,165,000 with the federal government paying \$6,422,000 of the original estimate.

The participating cities should pay for pipelines and pumping stations through the issue of self-liquidating bonds to be retired through sale of water.

Contracts between the cities would have to be approved by residents of the cities before agreements could be entered into. Special legislation passed during the last legislature allows communities in Cleveland and Oklahoma counties to join in such a venture.

The interior reports will go to committees on interior and insular affairs in the congress. Approval by these committees would send the report to a subcommittee headed by Sen. Robert S. Kerr.

Harold Cooksey, president of the water users group, has estimated the clear water reservoir would have a recreational value of \$700,000 per year and "probably would represent the greatest industry Norman has had an opportunity to acquire."

Officers of the association with Cooksey are three vice-presidents — James Gregory of Midwest City, Joe Tilley of Del City and W. L. "Bud" Saunders of Norman.

Seaton Stamps Okay on Plans For Reservoir

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton has approved and sent to Congress a report recommending construction of the Norman Lake Project on the Little River east of Norman, it was learned in Washington today.

It is understood that two sets of the report have gone to Congress, one each for the Senate and House Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Committees Get Report

Approval by these committees would mean that the report then would go to a subcommittee headed by Sen. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma. Kerr's group would prepare a bill for introduction into Congress proper.

The project plans call for building a dam across Little River for impounding water in an 8,500-acre reservoir.

A 1954 estimate by the Bureau of Reclamation placed the cost of the dam and other facilities at \$14,949,000, but the increasing cost of materials and labor since that date undoubtedly would raise the cost of the project.

Original plans for the work called for a reservoir to serve Norman, Midwest City, Del City and possibly others. The government was scheduled to provide \$6,422,000 of the original estimate, with Norman and the other cities financing \$8,165,000 worth of pipelines and pumping stations through the issue of self-liquidating bonds to be retired through the sale of water. The remaining \$362,000 would be the cities' share for recreational facilities.

Recreation a Factor

Planned for flood control, irrigation and as a source of water for municipal and industrial uses, the lake also would provide recreational facilities for a large area. A dam near the Little Axe School would back up water in the Little River to the west and Hog Creek to the north, providing a lake some 300 acres larger in area than Lake Murray.

Harold Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, estimated recently the clear-water reservoir would have a recreational value of \$700,000 a year and "probably would represent the greatest industry Norman has had an opportunity to acquire."

A constitutional amendment being voted upon by Oklahoma residents today is regarded as vital to the future of the Norman project. It would allow cities and towns to join together or join with other governmental agencies in long-term agreements to develop water resources and construct storage and distribution facilities.

Citizens Have Voice

The contracts between the cities would have to be approved by the residents of the cities before agreements could be entered into, and cities could then issue long-term bonds to finance the improvements.

A Bureau of Reclamation report on the project has been approved by Gov. Raymond Gary and various state agencies and by the U.S. Bureau of the Budget. It was this report that today received Seaton's stamp of approval and was forwarded to Congress.

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than any other U. S. diplomat. While in Paris from 1776 to 1785 the wily sage took time out from affairs of state to indulge in a bit of letter writing to the fairer sex.

Meeting the beautiful Madame Brillon one year after his arrival in Paris, the quick-witted Franklin engaged the interest of this young French woman still in her thirties. For the next decade he and Madame Brillon exchanged more than 200 letters, some in English, some in French.

"IN WHICH, one hastens to add, she demonstrated a wit, tact, and sympathy for the lonely American that equalled his," Granger comments. An example

men allows his wisdom to be perpetually broken against the rocks of femininity."

IT IS NOT Benjamin Franklin the almanac writer or periodical essayist or political pamphleteer that Mme. Brillon is praising here, says Granger, rather, it is Franklin the letter writer. "Judging by the letters, her marriage to a treasury official 24 years her senior was one of convenience," Granger said.

AIRLINE
SHOPPING
CENTER

MIDWEST
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lineup of the industrial centers of the U. S. Officials have registered from Pittsburgh, Pa.; New York City; Washington, Houston, Philadelphia, Youngstown, Pa.; St. Louis, Mo.; Detroit, Mich.; San Francisco, Calif.; Savannah, Ga.; and Rapid City, S. D.

FORMER army Gen. Omar Bradley has taken an interest in the Norman operation. Bradley wrote: "At this time, Los Angeles (the general's hometown) is grappling with the problem of disposal since it has a direct bearing on the smog problem . . . if the facets of your operation can contribute a practical solution to Los Angeles' problem, I will be glad to use my influence."

Plant inquiries have already been received from Dallas, Houston, Baton Rouge, La.; St. Louis and . . . Manila.

Several professional magazines have published exhaustive research reports on the Norman plant.

CONSTRUCTION of the new plant is both complicated and unbelievable. It consists of three sections: (1) receiving; (2) digesting, and (3) drying, packaging and shipping.

To finance the costly operation, the three company officials tied knots in their shoestrings and hit the road to sell stock. Not long ago, they set a goal of \$79,000 worth of shares and there's little left to sell.

Little River Reservoir Project Takes a Mighty Big Step

By LARRY CANNON

Tri-city residents in Del City, Midwest City and Norman stand at the threshold of a new era in civic progress.

In rapid-fire order this month, an official federal stamp of approval was put on the proposed \$16,647,000 Little River dam project. Oklahoma voters approved state question 380 and a 4-year-old dream of civic workers took a tremendous leap.

July 1, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton forwarded the project to congress, giving his official approval to what he termed "an urgently needed multi-purpose development."

THE SECRETARY urged the legislators to "Authorize construction of a dam and reservoir on the major tributary of the South Canadian river."

Oklahoma voters said "yes" in resounding majority to a constitutional amendment allowing cities and towns to enter into contracts for the purchase of water and securing water facilities.

Seaton's approval cleared a major hurdle for the Little River reservoir promoters — namely, members of the Central Oklahoma Water Users association.

THE ASSOCIATION is made up of Norman, Del City and Midwest City, with Tinker air force base participating.

Basically, the proposed plan calls for construction of a dam on Little river 13 miles east and three-quarters of a mile south of Norman—near the Little Axe community.

At present costs, civic leaders figure the tab for the entire operation would come to \$16,647,000. The federal government would participate to the extent of \$9,881,000, with the remaining \$5,982,000 cost being borne by the cities involved.

MUNICIPAL DEBTS incurred would be to pay for pipelines and pumping stations. This would be done by the use of self-liquidating bonds to be retired through the sale of water.

From the present status of the project, it moves to congressional committees on interior and insular affairs. If these committees approve, the project moves on to Oklahoma's senior U. S. Sen. Robert S. Kerr, head of a

cognizant subcommittee.

Developed in 1954, the Little river project idea has been bang-

ing around in Washington's mill the past four years, the object of continual work and improve-

ment on the part of legislators and representatives from the affected cities.

JUST RECENTLY, it shaped up to meet requirements set forth by the bureau of the budget.

If the project gets congressional approval (it has Oklahoma delegation backing), engineers figure it will take at least three years to build the dam.

Present engineers' figures call for the reservoir to provide space for (1)—85,000 acre feet of water for the three cities; (2)—An additional 75,000 feet for

flood control; (3)—35,000 acre feet of space for 100 years of sediment accumulation and (4)—easement to contain another 160,000 acre feet of water in case of extreme flooding conditions.

THE ENORMITY of the reservoir can best be realized by converting a single acre foot to gallonage.

An acre foot contains 325,860 gallons.

That means there would be a whopping 27,698,100,000 gallons available for use; 24,439,500,000

gallons for flood control; 11,405,100,000 for sediment accumulation; and an even more whopping 52,147,600,000 gallons of space in case the weather gets out of hand.

Frankly, boosters of the project are elated at Little River's chances of winding up on the president's desk.

NORMAN LUMBERMAN Harold Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users association, is "delighted. Success of this project will mean a great deal of difference to central Oklahoma. It's going to help

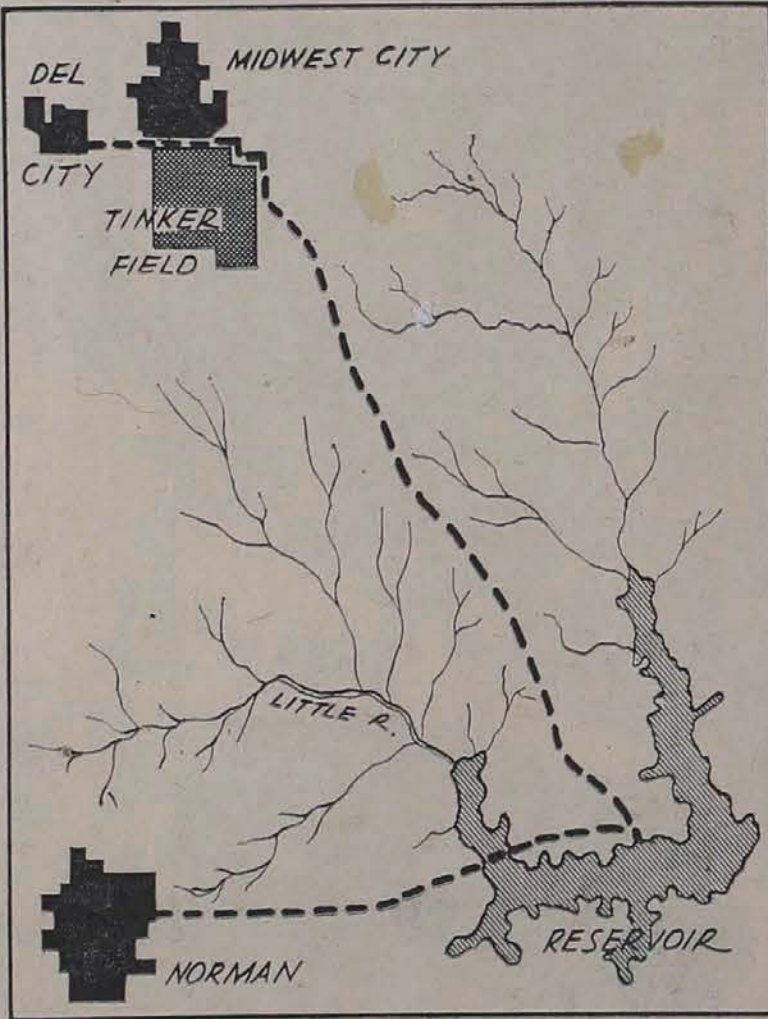
Oklahoma City as well as our tri-city participants."

Although Oklahoma City would not participate in water use, Cooksey pointed out, the benefit would come in this manner:

"Oklahoma City could use part of the reservoir as a surplus storage pool for some time to come; in addition to using it as an emergency pool without much cost."

IN ADDITION to direct benefits to the three cities and Tinker, Cooksey pointed out another fringe benefit that would accrue to Norman.

"A recreational value of approximately \$700,000 would represent the greatest industry Norman has had an opportunity to acquire" in many years, he said.



This is an artist's sketch of the proposed Little River reservoir project near Norman.

Kerr Predicts Canal by '70

By CAROLYN HART

Sen. Robert S. Kerr foresees completion of Project HOW (Harnessing Oklahoma's Water) by 1970 — if the people will participate.

Because of the Flood Control Act signed last week by President Eisenhower, Kerr believes Project HOW is now possible.

Kerr explained his optimism at a two-day Action Conference on Project HOW ending today at OU.

Under the new act, local communities will not necessarily have to foot any of the initial cost of the project which is expected to run from \$500 to \$600 million, Kerr said.

Project HOW is a proposal to build a water supply and navigation canal from southeastern Oklahoma to a point north of Oklahoma City with a navigable spur canal cut from Ada to the Eufaula Reservoir, now under construction, then on to the Arkansas River.

"The canal will supply 2 billion gallons a day to central Oklahoma," Kerr said.

Local participation will be through communities contracting to buy a specified amount of water when it becomes available.

Payments for this water would be used to reimburse the government a sufficient amount of the original cost to make certain that economic benefits from the canal justify its construction, Kerr said.

In the past, the government has not considered present municipal and industrial needs and anticipated future needs for water as economic justification for construction of reservoirs or canals.

Before the Flood Control Act was passed, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined whether a project was economically feasible for government support on the basis of expected navigation usage, and flood control, power and irrigation benefits, Kerr said.

"Now, under a section of the

Flood Control Act, present and anticipated future demands for water will be taken into account also as economic justification for construction. Up to 30 per cent of the project may be considered economically justified on the basis of future anticipated needs.

"The federal government could pay the entire initial cost of the project if all the economic elements, including present and future demands for water, add up to a total of economic benefits in excess of the cost," Kerr explained.

"This bill makes Project HOW possible. It doesn't make it easy, but it makes it possible," the senator said.

"If the people in Oklahoma want this enough to get in and work for it, I'm convinced we can now get it.

"Money was appropriated last year to begin the preliminary survey, which will be completed next year.

"We will get money next year (Continued on Page Two)

to make the project survey. The time for local communities and areas and civic clubs to participate is in the last phase of the preliminary survey and the first part of the project survey.

Projects Under Way

Towns will have to show their willingness to participate. They will have to estimate how much water they need now and how much they are going to need and then they will have to contract for this water," Kerr explained.

"There are other projects now under way like the Big Tompson Project in Colorado, the government lifts water 300 feet through a 12 to 15 mile tunnel under the Continental Divide from the west slope to the east slope, spending \$165 million to transport less than 23 million gallons daily.

"Project HOW will transport 2 billion gallons daily," he emphasized.

Earlier Projects Told

"I've been working on this for a long time, ever since I went to the Senate. First we had to get the project in northeastern Oklahoma under way. It was authorized in 1946. Project HOW will be an extension of this project.

"I think the preliminary survey will be finished next year, the project survey in another two

Water Projects May Bring City New Potential

Plans Pushed On Lake, Canal

Norman today is known as the University City, the home of Central State Hospital, the center of an agricultural area and the hub of a future industrial region.

But if plans now being pushed in Congress materialize the city can also expect within four or five years to become the gateway to a large recreational area and within 15 years to be a virtual seaport.

Plans Advanced

Fantastic as the two predictions sound, plans to make them a reality already are far advanced.

The Department of the Interior this year recommended to Congress government participation in the construction of a reservoir on the Little River Dam some 13 miles east of Norman. Cost of the lake, which would range from 6,100 to 13,400 acres in area, is estimated at \$16,647,000, of which nearly half would be borne by the government.

Congress may act in 1959 on authorization of the project, and if funds are allocated, the dam could be constructed within the next four years.

In addition to filling all conceivable water needs of the Norman area for the next 50 years, the lake is expected to have a recreational value alone of some \$700,000 a year.

Hearing Scheduled

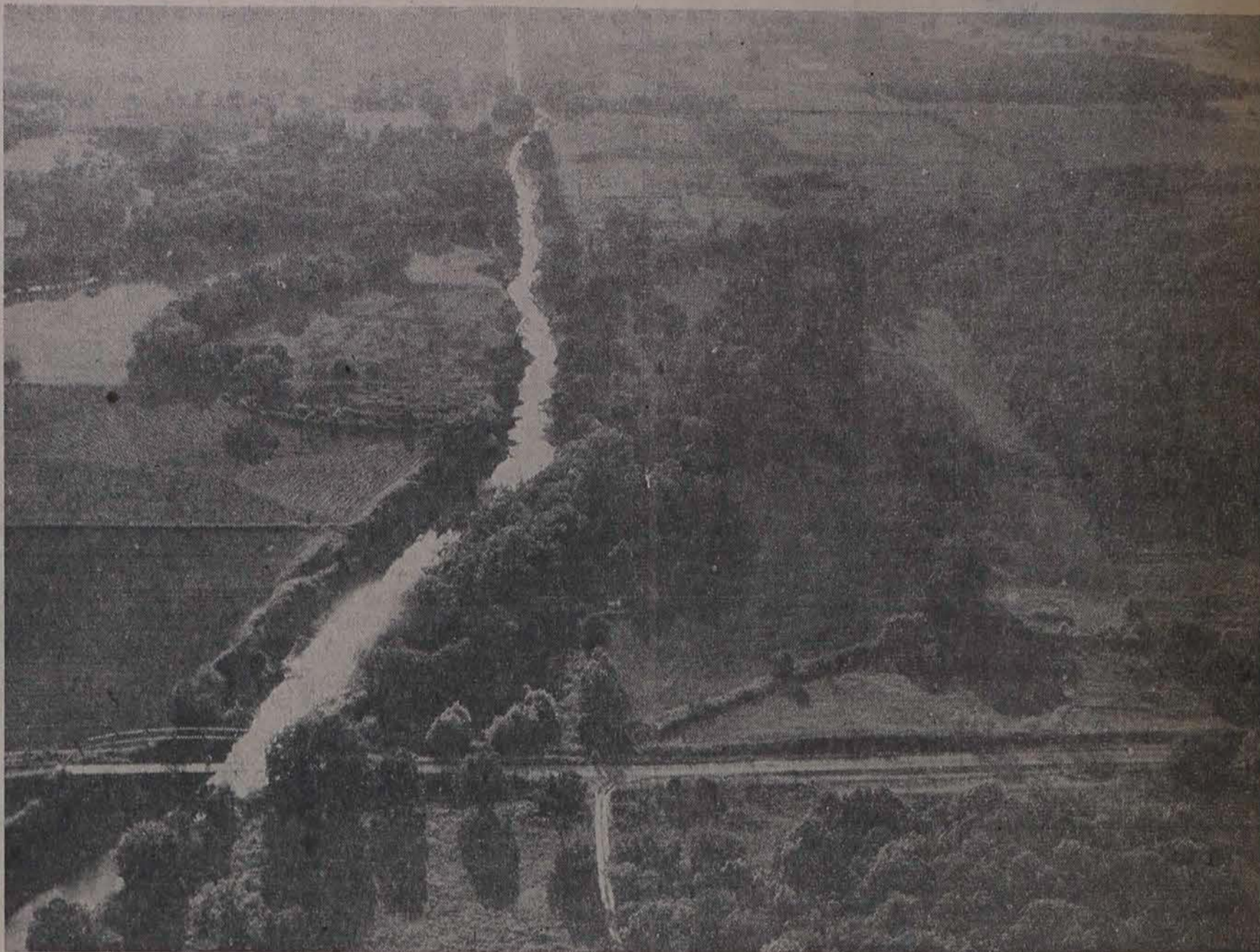
On Oct. 22, Army engineers will hold a hearing in Ada on the feasibility of the second project — construction of a 175-mile water-supply and navigation canal from southeastern Oklahoma to the Norman-Oklahoma City area.

The canal, known as Project HOW (Harnessing Oklahoma's Water), would include a navigable spur from a point near Ada east to the Eufaula Reservoir now under construction on the Canadian River near Eufaula. This lake, in turn, will be linked to the Arkansas River, where a navigation project to connect with the Mississippi River is now being built.

Surveys Under Way

The result would bring barge traffic from the Gulf Coast to central and southeastern Oklahoma, and chambers of commerce and larger industries in all the cities along the route of the proposed canal are now making surveys and estimates of the amount of barge freight they will use if the canal is built.

Sen. Robert S. Kerr, one of the originators and main backers of the proposal, estimates construction of the \$600 million project



THIS MAY BE A LAKE—If all goes well, this area 13 miles east of Norman will within the next few years be covered by a reservoir larger than Lake Murray. The proposed Little River Dam will be built approximately at

the site of this bridge one mile south of Little Axe, just below the junction of Little River (here stretching away to the west) and Hog Creek (hidden in strip of trees curving in from the right). (Transcript Photo)

could be completed by as early as 1970.

The Norman Reservoir — or Little River Dam, as it is more popularly known — got its first big push in 1953, when representatives of Norman, Midwest City and Del City formed the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association to promote construction of a water-supply reservoir on the Little River.

Plans for development of the project were prepared in 1954 under the supervision of the Bureau of Reclamation and were forwarded to the secretary of the interior. The Interior Department, in turn, sent reports on the project to the governors of all states in the Arkansas River Basin, the secretary of the Army and all Oklahoma and federal agencies interested in the project.

Receiving favorable recommendations from each of these agencies, the department then submitted the report and plan of development to the Bureau of the Budget, which approved the project in

1957. After a final study of the proposal, the secretary of the interior late in June recommended the project to Congress as an "urgently needed multipurpose development."

Meanwhile, voters of Oklahoma on July 1 approved an amendment to the state constitution permitting cities to join together or with agencies of the federal government to finance water development on a long-term basis. Thus the way was paved for negotiation with the government on the dam.

The cities' share of the cost of the construction, primarily for pipelines, pumping stations and treatment plants, would be financed by long-term bonds liquidated through the sale of water from the reservoir. In 1954, cost of the dam was estimated at \$14,949,000, with the government paying about \$6,422,000 of this amount and the cities the remainder. Since that time, however, costs have risen about 11 per cent, the Bureau of Reclamation estimates.

The total capacity of the reser-

voir is estimated at 363,900 acre feet, and the shoreline would range from 76 miles at the top of the municipal and industrial water supply pool to 94 miles at the top of the flood-control pool. The length of the stream in the reservoir area, on the same basis, would range from 9 to 12 miles.

The dam would be a rolled, earth-filled structure 7,420 feet long, 40 feet wide at the crest and 98 feet high. SH 9, once the dam was built, would be relocated to cross the crest of the dam.

The canal proposal was outlined and detailed at a Project HOW Action Conference at OU this summer.

The water-harnessing project would begin with the linking of

the proposed Sherwood, Glover Creek and Caney Creek reservoirs in southeastern Oklahoma, followed by the construction of the water-supply and navigation channel from Chaney Creek in eastern Pushmataha County to central Oklahoma.

To make the project a reality, it would be necessary to build an estimated 10 proposed and two already-authorized reservoirs in southeastern Oklahoma to feed the 115-foot wide and 17-foot deep canal.

If the project is completed and the available water utilized as it can be, HOW backers believe that 90,000 additional jobs will be a reality by 1975 and 170,000 more by 2000.



Bills Introduced in Congress To Build Norman Reservoir

Chamber Hears Of Bill for Dam

Directors of the Norman Chamber of Commerce were told Monday afternoon of the introduction in Congress of bills authorizing construction of the Norman Reservoir on the Little River east of the city.

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, reported on the introduction of the measures Monday by Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney and Rep. John Jarman. Identical bills were tossed into the hopper in both branches of Congress.

A telegram thanking the congressmen for their action was sent to Washington today, signed by some 150 leading Norman residents. If the bills are passed, the \$17.5 million dam is expected to be completed within four years.

Cooksey's talk was the main business to come before the Chamber directors. The board also discussed plans for an Armed Forces Day luncheon Friday at the Union Building and heard from John H. (Jack) Patten, cochairman of the industrial development committee, that a rough draft had been drawn of articles of incorporation for the Norman Industrial Foundation. The final draft is expected to be ready for approval at the board's June meeting.

Bill

Chamber Adds 51 New Names To Membership

Fifty-one new members have joined the Norman Chamber of Commerce since the beginning of the year, David L. Jackson, co-chairman of the Chamber's Mustang Club, said Saturday.

The club is the C of C's membership committee, charged both with signing up new members and collecting delinquent dues from old members.

Meeting Set Monday

The increase in membership and the need for still more members to help finance Chamber operations will be the main subject discussed by the group's board of directors in a luncheon meeting Monday at O. D. Sims Drive-In. The Chamber now has about 535 members.

Business firms that have joined the Chamber since the first of the year are:

Acme Quality Paints; Belco, Inc.; Beverly's; Blue Jay Trailer Court; Bob's Seat Covers; Joe Burke Advertising and Public Relations; Loren Butler; Central Asphalt Paving Co.; City Plumbing Co.; Clay Ford Insurance Agency; Collins Body Shop; Constructors Co.; Bruce Cornish, Real Estate Appraiser; Dorsett Electric;

Others Listed

Dunn and Mosher Construction Co.; Foster Cleaners; Leon Glesick Real Estate; H 7/8 H Distributors;

Congress Gets Bills For Norman's Dam

(Continued From Page One)

above the stream bed. The lake, at maximum capacity, would hold approximately 364,000 acre feet of water and cover an area 13,400 acres, or nearly 21 square miles.

The Oklahoma congressmen said the bills will be referred to the Interior and Insular Affairs committees of each branch of Congress, and they added that they will urge early hearings and action on the measure so that the Bureau of Reclamation might request funds at an early date for the initial stages of construction.

Harold S. Cooksey of Norman, president of the Oklahoma Water Users Association, said today that "the situation looks very favorable, and we believe the Oklahoma delegation will do everything possible to see that the project is pushed to an early completion."

Cooksey estimated that it would take a maximum of four years from the time the first appropriation is approved until the first water could be obtained from the completed reservoir.

Harmony Commended

In a joint statement, Kerr, Monroney and Jarman also said they are well pleased with agreements that had been reached locally, after months of negotiations. The harmony here, they said, should expedite the time required to obtain action by Congress, since no serious opposition to the project is expected.

The congressmen have received many telegrams recently from individuals and groups in both Norman and Oklahoma City, urging speedy action on the project. They said today they hope introduction of the bill will suffice as an acknowledgement of those messages, as stenographic limitation in their offices will prevent individual answers to each of the signers.

Among the negotiations referred to by the lawmakers are those with Oklahoma City and with some of the owners of property that will be inundated by water in the Little River and Hog Creek valleys.

Assistance Pledged

Oklahoma City officially has expressed "sincere interest" in the project and pledged its assistance in "expediting the construction at the earliest possible date." A proposal by the COWUA for the sale of water to Oklahoma City is being considered by the City Council there.

It provides for the sale of 30,000 acre feet a year at a cost of \$9.77 an acre foot, or a revenue of \$293,100 a year from that source.

Opposition in the lake area has been smoothed over by assurances that property owners will receive just prices for their land, Cooksey said.

Introduction of the bill is the result of more than 10 years of work by Norman civic leaders who foresaw the day when Norman and other nearby cities would face a serious shortage of water from the present supply, the underground

Garber-Wellington sandstones.

In 1953, representatives of Norman, Midwest City and Del City formed the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association. Francis Cella, director of the OU Bureau of Business Research, was the first president, and Cooksey, a former insurance man, took over leadership of the organization about two years ago.

A plan of development was prepared under the supervision of the Bureau of Reclamation. The plan was forwarded to the secretary of the interior who, in turn, transmitted the report to the governors of all states in the Arkansas River Basin, the secretary of the Army and federal agencies represented on the Inter-Agency Committee on Water Resources.

After receiving comments from each of these agencies, the secretary sent the report and plan of development to the Bureau of the Budget. Receiving authorization there, it was returned to the secretary, who approved it late last year.

Obstacle Eliminated

One major obstacle to the project was eliminated in 1956 when a bill was passed by the state Legislature authorizing the formation of master conservancy districts in Cleveland, Oklahoma and Pottawatomie Counties. Under this measure cities are permitted to plan, develop and finance joint projects to meet their water needs.

In the spring of 1957, the local position was further strengthened by the approval of a constitutional amendment authorizing cities and towns to join together or with agencies of the state or federal governments to develop water supplies.

Engineers' Conclusion

Early this year the COWUA hired Guernsey's firm to compile an economic feasibility report on the Norman project. Delving deep into a study of population trends, industrial outlook, estimated water requirements, the present ground water supply and consideration of a surface supply, the engineers came up with this conclusion:

"While it appears that the project cities could secure a water supply (from wells) sufficient for their requirements to 1980, and possibly to 1990, this would require developing a very large area, and its cost would be excessive, very likely twice as much as the cost of the Bureau's proposed water supply.

"It would therefore appear a wiser plan to consider as an alternate the opportunity of participating in the 'Norman' or 'Little River Plan' proposed by the Bureau . . . for a surface supply, and use existing ground water facilities as a supplementary supply source."

The report estimated that the supply from the reservoir, supplemented by existing ground water facilities, would meet the municipal and industrial needs of the project cities until the year 2020.

Authorization Asked for Dam On Little River

Bills authorizing construction of the Norman Reservoir Project on the Little River 12 miles east of Norman were introduced today in both branches of Congress.

The \$17.5 million lake, from 9 to 12 miles in length, would supply water for Norman, Midwest City, Del City and Tinker Air Force Base and provide a recreational area larger than that at Lake Murray.

Pending completion of Oklahoma City's long-range plans for additional water, the Norman Reservoir also could provide a supplemental supply to that city for an estimated 15 years, or until the project cities require the full capacity of the lake.

Federal Financing Proposed

Provisions also would be made for flood control and for fish and wild life preservation and propagation.

Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney submitted the measure in the Senate, and Rep. John Jarman introduced an identical bill in the House.

Under the proposal, the entire cost, with the exception of a treatment plant and a small amount for recreational facilities, would be financed by the federal government. A little more than \$10 million of the total would be reimbursable by the project cities at about 2½ per cent interest over a 50-year period. The remainder would be paid by the government for Tinker's water supply, flood control, fish and wildlife conservation and recreation.

Water To Be Sold

The cost of a treatment plant was estimated recently at \$3,187,000 by C. H. Guernsey and Co., consulting engineers for the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association.

This would be financed by the issuance of self-liquidating bonds by the project cities (joined in a master conservancy district), and the bonds would be retired through the sale of water.

Federal obligations also would be met through the sale of water. The annual costs of repayment of the federal debt have been estimated by the Bureau of Reclamation at \$628,000, while the annual benefits from the sale of water were set at \$1,072,000.

These figures, however, are based on a 1954 estimate of some \$15,000,000 as the total cost of the project, excluding interest on the treatment plant. Since that time both the estimated costs and estimated benefits have risen about 12 per cent.

Guernsey set the total costs today at \$18,164,000 (including \$17,585,000 construction cost and \$579,000 interest during construction), plus the \$3,187,500 cost of the treatment plant, or a grand total of \$21,351,500.

Near Little Axe

The dam, located approximately one mile south and a mile west of Little Axe, would be a rolled, earth-filled structure 7,420 feet long with a crest elevation 98 feet

(See Page 2, Column 6)

Hearings Slated For Norman Lake

By ALLAN CROMLEY
(Oklahoman-Times Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, May 24—Congressional committees are expected to hold hearings soon on legislation authorizing construction of the Norman reservoir, a project which has been kicking around several federal bureaus for about 12 years.

Rep. John Jarman, Oklahoma City, said he hopes for passage of the legislation during this session of congress, after which would come the more difficult job of obtaining appropriations to start the job.

Some \$130,000 has been spent for preliminary investigations to date, a spokesman for the bureau of reclamation said.

A 13,400-acre reservoir, backed up by an earthen dam on Little River 12 miles due east of Norman, would supply industrial and municipal water to Norman, Del City, Midwest City, and Tinker Air Force base.

City to Get Some Water
There are provisions for Oklahoma City to draw municipal water from the project for about 15 years, or until the total supply would be needed by the other municipalities and Tinker Air Force base.

Jarman said "some earlier opposition to the project has subsided. He predicted relatively smooth sailing in congress.

However, as drawn in the legislation, the project will probably be opposed by the budget bureau, which holds the purse strings on all federal funds.

In a 1957 letter to Secretary of Interior Fred A. Seaton, the assistant director of the budget bureau, Robert E. Merriam, outlined objections to Uncle Sam paying for certain parts of the project.

\$15 Million Price Tag
Total cost is estimated at about \$15 millions, of which \$8,165,000 would eventually be paid by municipal and industrial water users over a 40 or 50-year period.

The remainder would be paid by the federal government, and this was Merriam's principal objection.

The legislation allocates the federal costs like this: Tinker Air Force base water supply, \$1,716,000; flood control, \$2,058,000; recreation, \$280,000; and fish and wildlife conservation, \$2,368,000.

Unless the budget bureau changes its policies, it will object to government payments of

costs attributable to fish and wildlife conservation and recreation.

In his letter to Seaton, Merriam said fish and wildlife benefits are "incidental" to the operation of the reservoir and therefore should be reallocated.

Cash Contribution Urged

The budget bureau also recommended a cash contribution of about \$350,000 be made by local interests to reflect benefits they will receive from flood control.

Similar objections were made by the bureau in the authorization of seven reservoirs in McCurtain county and nearby Arkansas. The dispute was resolved in compromise between the bureau and Sen. Robert S. Kerr, who headed the senate subcommittee which eventually authorized the project.

Norman dam would be a rolled-earth-fill structure with a crest length of 7,420 feet and a height of 98 feet above the stream bed. The reservoir capacity is 363,900 acre-feet.

It would provide a permanent pool and sediment reserve capacity of 363,000 acre-feet, which is estimated to be sufficient to accommodate more than 100 years' accumulation of sediment.

The active capacity is divided: 85,000 acre-feet to water conservation and 75,000 acre-feet to flood control, with the remaining 168,000 acre-feet providing surcharge capacity and spillway crest.

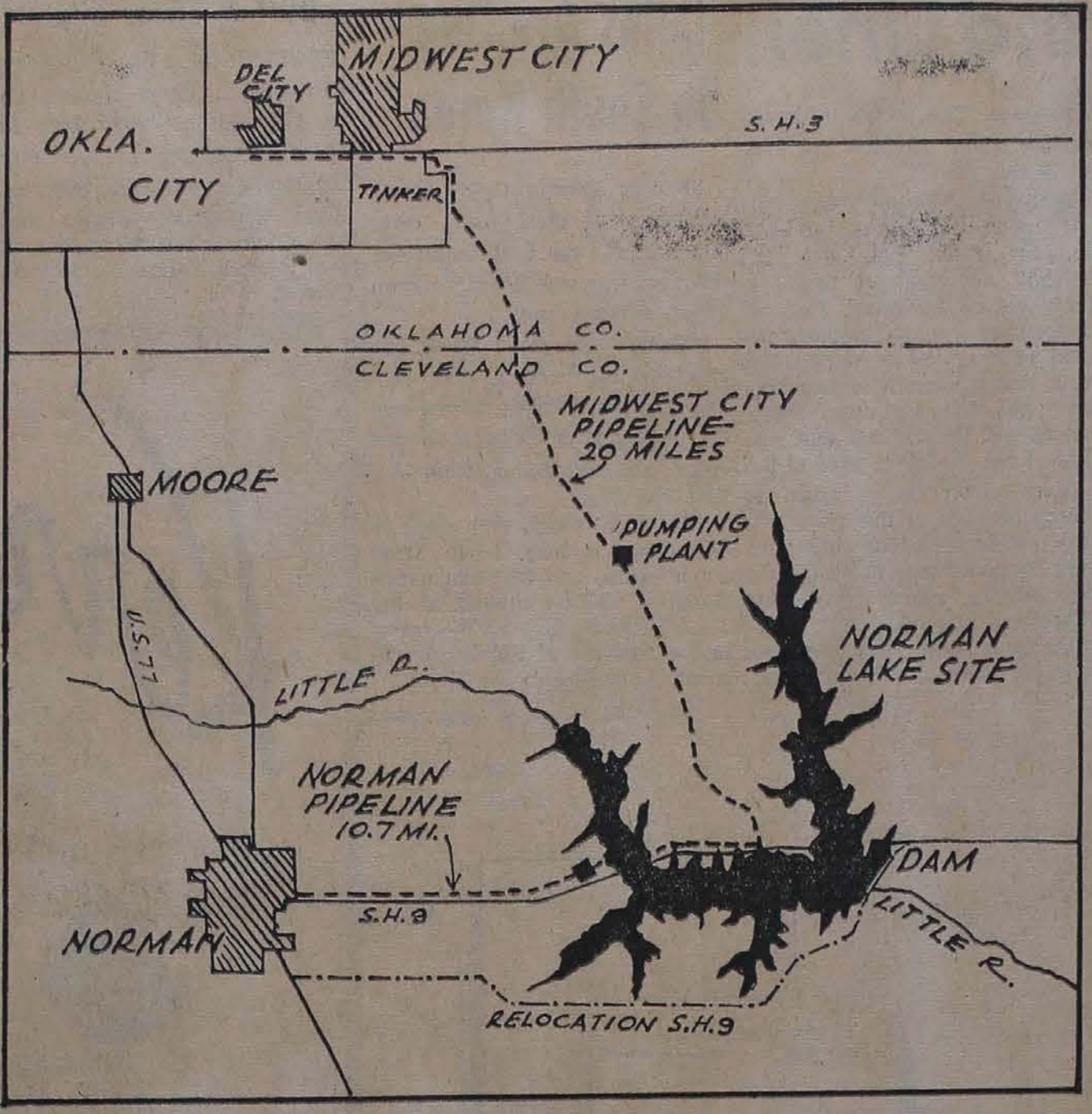
Contracts Necessary

Cities must accomplish acceptable water payment contracts with the government before construction can begin. Cost of pipelines and pumping facilities would be paid by the users.

The bureau of reclamation estimates the obligation of water users, including operation and maintenance, interest and bond retirement payments, will be equivalent to about 8.5 cents per thousand gallons of water during a 30-year bond retirement period.

The total cost estimate (\$14,949,000 at 1954 prices) includes about \$6 millions for pumping plants and pipelines to Tinker and the three cities.

In a 1954 report the bureau of reclamation estimated that the water requirements of the participating cities will increase from 15,800,000 gallons per day in 1960 to 25,500,000 gallons per day in 2010.



Norman, Del City, Midwest City and Tinker Air Force base would be supplied by water from the proposed 13,400-acre Norman reservoir, to cost an estimated \$15 millions. The reservoir would be backed up by an earthen dam on Little river, 12 miles due east of Norman.

NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, MONDAY, JULY 13, 1959.

West Main Project Detour Work To Start

Petition Drive May End Soon

The drive for petitions for the formation of a Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District (Little River Reservoir) may be concluded this week, Chamber of Commerce Secretary - Manager John Malone said Saturday.

Already 119 petitions containing about 2,500 signatures have been obtained, project leaders in the cities of Norman, Midwest City and Del City said.

Only 100 signatures from each city are required by law, but leaders want to get as many signatures as possible. Malone said he will start contacting workers Monday in an attempt to get remaining petitions returned as soon as possible.

Progress Reported

At present the situation on the 25-signature petitions looks like this:

Norman — One hundred and fifty petitions were placed in circulation, and 76 have been returned, bearing 1,605 signatures.

Midwest City — Seventy-five petitions were put out, and 37 have been returned, bearing 754 signatures.

Del City — Twenty-five petitions were put out, and six have been returned with 150 signatures.

Friday marked the target date for return of all the petitions. The deadline was extended into this week.

Prospects Good For West Main

Bailey, Poyner Talk to Governor

Issuing of a work order for the widening and resurfacing of West Main Street "still looks very favorable," Sen. Robert L. Bailey, Norman, reported today after conferring with Gov. J. Howard Edmondson Wednesday afternoon.

The state Highway Commission Tuesday postponed issuing of the order, although it approved work on 36 other contracts let at the same time during the closing days of Gov. Raymond Gary's administration.

Bailey said today that Edmondson "is still 100 per cent for the project" and had assured his continuing support. Rep. Kenneth J. Poyner, Norman, said he also had talked to the governor by telephone and that Edmondson had told him essentially the same thing.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called for 4:30 this afternoon, when Bailey, Poyner and Rep. Leland Wolf, Noble, have been invited to confer with the Chamber group.

The \$609,232 project calls for the widening of the street to four lanes and resurfacing from the interchange on IH 35 east to Park Drive. The contractor, the Boecking Construction Co., currently is working in Norman on another

Water Petitions Ready for Court

3,073 Signatures Obtained on Lists

A petition bearing the names of 3,073 Norman, Midwest City and Del City property owners will be presented to the state Supreme Court Monday, asking that body to refer to the District Court here an application for the formation of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

John M. (Jack) Luttrell, attorney for the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, said the high court will have 10 days in which to act. If the petition is sent to the District Court, as expected, District Judge Elvin J. Brown will then set a date for a public hearing on the creation of the district, Luttrell said.

Delay Required

The hearing must be at least 30 days after Brown receives the petition, and notice of the hearing will be published in the meantime.

Only 200 signatures were necessary on the petitions — 100 from Norman and 100 from the other cities — and the Norman City Commission's passage of a resolution endorsing the district accounted for 50 of these.

But backers of the proposed Norman Reservoir on the Little River obtained 2,135 signatures from Norman and 938 from the two Oklahoma County cities in order to make as strong a showing as

Court to Get Little River Dam Petition

Petitions bearing more than 3,000 signatures requesting creation of a master water conservancy district in Cleveland and Oklahoma counties—next step toward construction of Norman's Little River reservoir—will be presented to the state supreme court Monday, reservoir backers said Wednesday night.

John Malone, secretary of the Norman chamber of commerce and secretary of the Central Oklahoma Water Producers association, said a total of 3,101 signatures had been collected in Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

"We've collected all we're going to collect," said Malone. "We feel this is sufficient to present our case so far as support is concerned."

Jack Luttrell, attorney for the association, expects to file the petitions Monday.

Minimum number of signatures required on the petitions was 100 in each county, Malone said. Only property-owners in the three "project cities" were eligible to sign.

Creation of the master conservancy district will enable the reservoir project to qualify for federal matching funds.

The lake is to be created by a dam on Little River 13 miles east of Norman. Estimated cost is \$17,500,000. The reservoir, when

Trailers, Budget On Council List

Parking of trailers and the city budget for the 1959-60 fiscal year are the main subjects to be discussed by the Norman City Commission at its meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday at City Hall.

The Commission at its last meeting ordered an ordinance prepared that would permit the parking of any type of unoccupied trailer in any zone of the city. The action followed protests by owners of camping trailers to the present ordinance, which prohibits the parking of such trailers in R-1 (single-family residential) zones. The ordinance will be ready for adoption Tuesday.

The Commission also may adopt the proposed \$1,031,939 budget. A study session has been held on the budget, and the city clerk provides that it must be adopted

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Chamber Seeks Help on Street

The Chamber of Commerce board of directors today invited other civic organizations in a large citizens' committee to study Norman's street and other needs and to work on citywide improvement projects.

Composed of all segments of the city's population, the committee would comprise 50 or 60 members and would operate independently of the Chamber or any other group.

Fred E. Tarman, who headed the plan to the other directors, termed good street

(See Page 2, Column 1)

\$53-Million Water Program ⁹⁻⁵⁻⁵⁷ Biggest Voted For Oklahoma

Oklahoma's massive water development program moved forward on seven league boots when Congress sent President Eisenhower the 1960 Public Works Appropriation Bill.

Senators Robert S. Kerr and A. S. Mike Monroney, both of whom served on the Senate committee handling public works funds, said that the 1960 program of \$53,907,300 for the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation is the largest ever voted for Oklahoma.

Coupled with the Agriculture Department Appropriations of \$7,591,000 for Oklahoma upstream flood control and soil conservation projects, the new measure brings the total appropriated

to \$61,498,300, balanced between small watersheds and large water storage projects. Several projects in nearby states aiding flood control in Oklahoma add another \$5,277,000 for a total of \$66,775,300.

The two senators said the 53 construction and survey projects, when completed, would provide diverse benefits to the state. Some keep the water where it falls and the soil where it belongs. Others are aimed principally at flood control, industrial and municipal water supply development, irrigation, navigation, and conservation. Many also will improve the state's recreational facilities.

Subcommittee Backs Dam

The Senate Irrigation and Reclamation subcommittee today approved the Norman Reservoir project in a report to its parent Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Word of the subcommittee's recommendation was received in a telegram from Sen. Robert S. Kerr to Harold Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Users Assn.

Cooksey is out of town and could not be reached for comment but John F. Malone, manager of the Chamber of Com-

merce, called the action "a fine step forward." Both Cooksey and Malone were among a delegation of Norman, Midwest City and Del City representatives who took part in a hearing before the subcommittee two weeks ago in Washington.

Bills proposing construction of the reservoir on the Little River, 12 miles east of Norman, were introduced in the Senate by Sens. Kerr and A. S. Mike Monroney and in the House by Rep. John Jarman.

Over-all cost of the joint wa-

ter supply, flood control, recreation and conservation project is estimated at \$22,269,000. The authorized federal cost would be \$19,042,000 of which \$10,776,000 would be reimbursed by municipal water users over a 50-year period.

Kerr said that because of lateness of the session it's doubtful if the project can be fully authorized before adjournment, but added that progress in the Senate will result "in speeding up (See Page 2, Column 5)

Committee Approves

Reservoir Clears Another Barrier

The Norman Reservoir project cleared another hurdle this morning when it was given a favorable report by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

The announcement was made jointly in Washington by Sen. Robert S. Kerr, Sen. A. S. Mike Monroney and Rep. John Jarman.

The project will be placed on the Senate calendar for consideration by the full Senate. It is expected to be submitted to a Senate vote before Congress adjourns.

The authorization measure is the same one that was approved last Thursday by the Senate Irrigation and Reclamation subcommittee. House consideration is expected early next year.

The over-all cost of the joint

water supply, flood control, recreation and conservation project is estimated at \$22,269,000. The cost to the federal government would be \$19,042,000, of which \$10,776,000 would be reimbursed by municipal water users over a 50-year period.

The dam would be a rolled earth-filled structure with a crest length of 7,420 feet and a crest elevation 98 feet above the streambed. The top of the dam is on Little River about 13 miles east of Norman. In addition to Norman, Midwest City and Del City would receive water from the reservoir.

The dam would be a rolled earth-filled structure with a crest length of 7,420 feet and a crest elevation 98 feet above the streambed. The top of the dam would be about 40 feet wide.

The reservoir would have a total capacity of about 363,900 acre feet. The shore line of the lake would range between 76 miles to 94 miles.

Senate Approves Dam

The Senate passed unanimously today a bill authorizing the Norman Reservoir project.

Announcement of the action came from Sens. Robert S. Kerr and A. S. Mike Monroney.

House consideration of the bill to build a \$22,269,000 water supply, flood control, recreation and conservation reservoir east of Norman is expected early next year.

"The Senate action gives the project a big push," Kerr said today.

Monroney concurred. "The Senate action will give the project more prestige when it is brought up in the House," he said.

Both senators said they will work to have it brought before the House early next session.

Another supporter of the project, Rep. John Jarman, also has pledged to work for quick House action.

Norman, Del City and Midwest City are the cities working to form a conservancy district to

administer the project, which would cost the federal government \$19,042,000, of which \$10,776,000 would be reimbursed by municipal water users over a 50-year period.

The dam would be a rolled earth-filled structure with a crest length of 7,420 feet and a crest elevation 98 feet above the streambed. The top of the dam would be about 40 feet wide and the reservoir capacity would be about 363,900 acre feet.

Water District Near a Ruling

Final Arguments Heard in Court

District Judge Elvin J. Brown today began hearing final arguments on a technicality which earlier blocked a ruling on whether he should approve formation of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

Formation of the district, comprising Norman, Del City and Midwest City, is necessary for continued progress toward building a dam and reservoir on Little River 13 miles east of Norman.

Arguments Presented

The hearing started at 2 p.m. Enid Attorney Frank Carter presented arguments aimed at blocking formation of the district, while Norman City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell represented the project cities. Carter represents a Cleveland County property owner, Howard Z. Oliphant.

After all other discussion had been concluded at a hearing last week, Carter forced postponement of a ruling, seemingly without realizing that he was about to do so.

Carter asked if the 1957 state law authorizing formation of a district in this part of the state was a special law. If it was, he said, it had to be published here to become binding.

"I don't know if it is a special or general law," he told the court. "I don't know if it was published. I think the court should find out. We are willing to accept your decision on the formation of the district now, reserving the right to enter additional arguments if you later learn that the law is a special one and was not published here."

Question Studied

Judge Brown refused to rule until he could learn whether or not this area is technically open for formation of a district. The hearing today was set for discussion of the question.

Norman representatives expressed confidence that the law is a general one, and in no way bars formation of the district here.

The district must be formed so the three cities can be bound together to deal as a unit to negotiate with the Federal government in financing the project. A petition for formation of the district was filed with the state Supreme Court and referred to Brown's court.

Kerr To Speak At C of C Event

Robert S. Kerr, senior senator from Oklahoma, will be the speaker at the annual dinner meeting of the Norman Chamber of Commerce Oct. 21 at the Lockett Hotel, Chamber manager John F. Malone announced today.

The annual meeting usually is held in November, but the October date is the only one on which Kerr could be in Norman, Malone said. Arrangements for Kerr's visit were made by Harold S. Cooksey, a member of the committee in charge of arrangements for the dinner.

Because of the earlier date for the meeting, new Chamber officers will have to be elected in October, rather than at the first meeting of the directors in November, Malone said. Ten new members of the board were elected Monday.

Malone said a meeting of the dinner committee, which is headed by John M. (Jack) Luttrell, will be held in the next few days to complete arrangements for the event. Tickets must be printed after the cost of the dinner is determined, and other details of the program must be ironed out.

Kerr Dinner Still Open

About 100 tickets remain for the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner Wednesday, at which Sen. Robert S. Kerr will be the principal speaker.

John F. Malone, Chamber manager, said between 175 and 200 tickets have been sold but that close to 300 are expected at the dinner. The meeting will open at 7 p.m. at the Lockett Hotel.

O. T. McCall will be master of ceremonies for the dinner, and Kerr will be introduced by Fred E. Tarman. Ken Wright, Oklahoma City organist, will supply music during the dinner, and an additional musical program is being arranged for after the meal. Newly elected officers of the Chamber will be installed during the evening.

Dam Backed By Senators

(Continued From Page One)

the date when construction can begin."

The legislation may be considered by the parent committee on Tuesday. It then is expected to be submitted to a Senate vote before Congress adjourns.

Rep. Walter Rogers, chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, has assured project supporters he will attempt to get a hearing before his House group sometime early next year.

Commenting on today's action, Kerr said:

"This is another example of the teamwork of the Oklahoma Congressional delegation in obtaining approval of projects that will be instrumental in the development of industrial and economical growth in Oklahoma."

Rep. Jarman commented:

"I know that our senators will be doing everything possible to obtain full committee approval and final passage by the senate."

"On the house side, we are assured of a subcommittee hearing next year. I am optimistic about committee approval and passage of the bill in the House next year."

Chamber Directors Appoint 2 Groups

Members were appointed to election and dinner committees during a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors Monday, John F. Malone, manager, said.

Ten members were chosen to assist in tabulating ballots for filling 10 expiring terms among the directors. Jack Zoblotzky will serve as committee chairman and Ray Rickner is vice chairman. Members are Carl Albert, Floyd Eoff

OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES, Thur., Sept. 10, 1959 15

Norman Dam Project Gets Boost in Senate

By DICK RATLIFF

(Times Special Correspondent)

NORMAN — A proposed \$22 million water reservoir project to serve Norman, Del City and Midwest City has moved a step nearer reality with unanimous passage in Washington of a senate bill authorizing the project.

Sens. Mike Monroney and Robert S. Kerr got the word to Oklahomans on the eve of Thursday's district court hearing here on constitutionality of the 1957 legislative act that authorized organization of a master conservancy district by the three cities.

Organization of the district would enable supporters of the project to move ahead with it officially.

House consideration of the senate-passed bill for city-federal financing of the Little river reservoir 12 miles east of Norman is expected early next year.

Sen. Monroney observed that senate passage of the bill will give the project more prestige when it's brought up in the house.

Specific question up for consideration in district court here Thursday was whether the 1957 act authorizing organization of conservancy districts in Oklahoma and Cleveland counties was a legal enactment.

At the original district court hearing last Thursday, Howard Z.

Oliphant, Norman property owner, questioned constitutionality of the act.

Organization of a conservancy district would pave the way for elections in the three project cities and get the project under way officially.

Oliphant, through his attorney, Frank Carter, Enid, maintained the 1957 legislative act, since it applied only to Oklahoma and Cleveland counties, was a special act and should have been advertised.

Little River Dam Wins Test

NORMAN, Sept. 10—The 1957 legislative act permitting a master conservancy district in Oklahoma and Cleveland counties Thursday withstood its first court test here.

District Judge Elvin J. Brown ruled the act was a general law and was in accord with constitutional provisions. It was a defeat for a Cleveland county farmer attempting to block a \$22 million reservoir project on Little river.

Frank Carter, Enid attorney, representing Howard Z. Oliphant, Cleveland county farmer, immediately advised the court he would file motion for a new trial

because they couldn't pay taxes to finance a drainage ditch half a mile west of my place." Oliphant said, "The city and the state and the federal government didn't help us out then, and they're not going to take my property now."

"We ought to take this to Oklahoma City and tell the justice department about it," said a woman with Oliphant after hearing Judge Brown's decree. More than a dozen friends of the farmer were in the courtroom.

Bill Passes Senate

Thursday's ruling means interested citizens in Norman, Midwest City and Del City will con-

Arguments Thursday in defense of the 1957 law authorizing the conservancy district were presented by Jack M. Luttrell, Norman city attorney, and Ed Ferrish, city attorney for Midwest City.

Previous Case Cited

Luttrell cited the Oklahoma supreme court case of Sheldon vs. Grand River Dam authority as a precedent in which the high state court ruled that a law specifically naming 17 counties was not a special law; therefore, not unconstitutional.

In answer to this, Carter said, if the state had intended the 1957 act to be a general law, it should

From The 9/6

Dam Hearing

Plans Begin

3/80

Representatives from Norman, Midwest City and Del City were to meet at 2 p.m. today to determine who will attend a hearing on the Norman Reservoir project March 21 and 22 in Washington, D.C.

Meeting to select the delegates were members of the boards of directors of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

The hearing will be before the reclamation subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. A bill authorizing construction of the reservoir east of Norman was passed by the Senate late last year.

The City Commission Tuesday night decided to wait until today's meeting at the Chamber of Commerce before authorizing a representative of the city to go to Washington. City Manager Grover L. Morris, among others, testified before a Senate subcommittee before Senate action on the bill.

Oklahoma congressmen have indicated the House subcommittee will have before it the testimony given the Senate group, and the second hearing may not require as many Norman representatives to be on hand.

3/25/60
**Group Finishes
Dam Hearing**

**Preparing Record
Will Take Weeks**

A House subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation completed its hearing Tuesday on the Norman Reservoir project, Rep. John Jarman, Oklahoma City, reported from Washington today.

The subcommittee finished hearing testimony from officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, which has endorsed the project and urged quick House passage of the authorization bill that was approved by the Senate late last year.

Delegates Back

Jarman said completion of the record of the hearing will take two to three weeks, and the project then will be ready for further consideration by the subcommittee.

Representatives from Norman, Midwest City and Del City returned from the hearing Wednesday night and expressed optimism over the outcome, despite what they termed facetious needling by two members of the group, Reps. John Saylor (R-Pa.) and James A. Haley (D-Fla.).

Primary purpose of the reservoir would be for municipal and industrial water for Norman, Midwest City, Del City and as a supplementary source for Tinker Air Force Base and Oklahoma City.

Among those testifying Thursday was James T. McBroom of the Bureau of Fish and Wildlife.

Cost Spirals

He said the project would have a "substantial value" for fish and wildlife.

William I. Palmer, assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation, testified that the cost of the project has risen from \$14,900,000 in 1954 to \$19,700,000 because of an increase in the size of the project and spiraling costs.

3/22/60
**New Support
Gets Behind
Dam Project**

Additional support for the proposed Norman Reservoir project was presented to a House subcommittee in Washington this morning as Norman area delegates wound up their testimony and prepared to return home.

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, reported that Albert Connell, president of the Reclamation Association of Oklahoma, and Frank Raab, director of the Water Resources Board, both appeared on behalf of the \$22 million project before the subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

Delegates Encouraged

"We had a friendly reception again this morning, and we feel pretty encouraged about getting this through the subcommittee and the full committee," Cooksey said. "It looks like there is a possibility of passage by the House this session."

The bill authorizing the project was approved unanimously by the Senate late last year.

Eight representatives of Norman, Midwest City and Del City presented their testimony this morning and then answered questions by the subcommittee members for about an hour.

Bureau Interrupted

When the hearings opened Monday all six Oklahoma representatives in the House spoke on behalf of the project, and statements were submitted for the record from Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney. The Bureau of Reclamation then began its testimony, which continued this morning.

The bureau's testimony was interrupted this morning in order

(See Page 2, Column 3)

**More Help Lines Up
Behind Dam Project**

(Continued From Page One)

for the local delegates to appear, Cooksey said, and the bureau will conclude its remarks at a session beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The area delegates, however, plan to return Wednesday.

Giving testimony this morning, in addition to Cooksey, were City Manager Grover L. Morris; D. H. Grisso, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District; Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone and State Sen. Robert L. Bailey, all from Norman; Bob Quinlan, city manager of Midwest City; Huey Long, city manager at Del City,

and we have hope of getting it through the House this session."

Two Critical

The bill authorizing the \$22 million project passed the Senate last year and was sent to the House, where a hearing was scheduled by the subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Ten delegates from Norman, Midwest City and Del City were on hand for the hearing Tuesday.

Oklahoma City newspapers quoted the remarks of only two of the subcommittee members, John Saylor (R-Pa.) and James A. Haley (D-Fla.), who were critical of the project.

"But those boys were just hanging around, and their remarks were just a waste of time," said City Manager Grover L. Morris. Haley was gesturing that the Oklahoma delegation move to the other side of the room. "I have plenty of money," said Tinker Air Force Base commander Huey Long. "I can take care of my own people."

and Ray Trent, Del City mayor.

Also on hand were Oscar Rose, Midwest City, a director of the conservancy district, and Mayor Orville Mathews, Midwest City.

Cooksey said Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D-Colo.), chairman of the full committee, sat in on most of the hearings and appeared "very friendly." Chairman of the subcommittee is Rep. Walter Rogers (D-Tex.).

The testimony given by the Norman area representatives was essentially the same as was given before a Senate subcommittee last fall, Cooksey said. It dealt with the need for water in the central Oklahoma area, methods of financing the proposed dam 12 miles east of Norman, the benefits in the way of wildlife conservation, irrigation and recreation and related matters.

The bill as passed by the Senate provides for federal financing of virtually the entire cost of the project, with the participating cities, through the conservancy district, repaying the government about \$12 million of the total over a period of 50 years. Most of the cities' share would be financed by the issuance of bonds which would be liquidated through the sale of

Conservancy District. Also on hand were City Managers Bob Quinlan, Midwest City, and Huey Long, Del City, and other representatives from those communi-

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3/16/60

Cooksey Heads For Dam Talks

One left today, and other representatives from Norman will leave Thursday for Washington, D.C., to testify before a House subcommittee on the proposed Norman Reservoir on the Little River east of Norman.

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, left this morning for Wisconsin and will go to Washington from there, arriving Friday. Sen. Robert L. Bailey, City Manager Grover L. Morris, Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone and D. H. Grisso, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District also are expected to be in Washington by Friday.

They will be accompanied by Bob Quinlan and Huey Long, city managers of Midwest City and Del City, respectively, and possibly by others from those communities.

The group will testify Monday and Tuesday before the subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee on the Norman Project bill, which was passed by the Senate late last year.

Most of those making the trip met Tuesday afternoon at the Chamber office to go over their testimony and make plans for the hearing. They will confer in Washington Friday and Saturday with members of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oklahoma congressional delegation before appearing before the committee.

3/21/60

Dam Delegates Receiving Help In Washington

A friendly reception to the first day's testimony on the proposed Norman Reservoir before a House subcommittee was reported today from Washington by Rep. John Jarman and members of the Norman delegation on hand for the hearings.

Jarman said all six Oklahoma members of the House appeared before the subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. The Bureau of Reclamation then began its testimony. Representatives of Norman, Midwest City and Del City will be heard Tuesday morning.

Response Favorable

"I thought the hearing went well, with favorable response from several members of the subcommittee and the chairman of the full committee, Rep. (Wayne) Aspinall of Colorado," Jarman said. "No one commits himself at this stage, of course, but their attitude was indicative of a friendly reception of the presentation being made."

Others who testified on behalf of the project, in addition to Jarman, were Reps. Page Belcher, Enid; Ed Edmondson, Muskogee; Carl Albert, McAlester; Tom Steed, Shawnee, and Toby Morris, Lawton. Jarman is from Oklahoma City.

Harold S. Cooksey, Norman, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, also reported the reception was "very friendly — bystanders seem to think we're in good shape. We were pretty encouraged by this morning's meeting."

Representatives Praised

Sen. Robert L. Bailey of Norman said the congressional delegation "made an excellent representation," explaining Oklahoma's water needs in general and the way in which the Norman Reservoir on the Little River would benefit the project cities, the University, Central State Hospital, Tinker Air Force Base and other agencies.

"We had a real good morning and a real enthusiastic response by the congressional delegation," Bailey added.

Jarman warned, however, that "we recognize we do face some hurdles. Some of the members of the subcommittee and the full committee are opposed to municipal projects in which little or no irrigation is involved. There's also the time element—because of the national conventions this session of Congress will end in the first few days of July. Rep. Aspinall already has indicated to us that there are some \$900 million in other projects that have time precedence with the committee, based upon previous hearings and so on.

Effort Promised

"But we will still do everything we are big enough to do to take this thing through the subcommittee, the full committee and through the House as rapidly as possible."

Others in Washington are City Manager Grover L. Morris, Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone; D. H. Grisso, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, all from Norman; City Managers Bob Quinlan and Huey Long of Midwest City and Del City and other representatives from those communities.

3/25/60

Group Finishes Dam Hearing

Preparing Record Will Take Weeks

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3/22/60

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(See Page 2, Column 3)

Committee Move Due On Norman Reservoir

5/9/60

A bill for the proposed \$22 million Norman Reservoir on the Little River is one of two that still have a chance in this session of Congress, the Associated Press reported from Washington today.

The House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has held hearings on the Norman project and the Burns Creek Dam in Idaho and is scheduled to act on them next week, the AP said.

Harold S. Cooksey of Norman, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, said a subcommittee of the House committee was scheduled to vote on the project last week, but the 22-member group was unable to raise a quorum. He expressed hope that the necessary 12 members will convene early next week and pass on the measure.

If the bill is voted out of committee and cleared by the rules committee, it will go to the floor of the House. It already has been passed unanimously by the Senate. It is authorizing several other controversial Western water proj-

ects appear doomed in Congress this year, the AP said. Congress expects to adjourn July 3. Any measures not acted upon by then will have to be reintroduced at the next session and new hearings held.

The bill authorizing the Norman project cleared the Senate Sept. 9 after approval by the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee a few days earlier. It went to the subcommittee on irrigation and reclamation of the House committee, and that group held a hearing March 22.

Only two of the subcommittee members offered unfriendly comment at that time, and Rep. John Jarman, Oklahoma City, said later he believed these two would not vote against the measure. They are Rep. John Saylor (R-Pa.) and Rep. James A. Haley (D-Fla.).

The chairman of the parent committee, Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D-Colo.) was reported friendly to the project and optimistic about getting full committee approval once the bill is voted out of the subcommittee.

Need for Law No Dam Block

5/12/60

An apparent failure by the last Legislature to pass legislation vitalizing a constitutional amendment should have no effect on the Norman Reservoir project, Sen. Robert L. Bailey said today.

An Oklahoma City newspaper disclosed Wednesday that the constitutional amendment allowing cities to join together to finance joint water development apparently has not been put into effect. The amendment was approved by state voters July 1, 1958, but the Legislature apparently failed to pass a law enabling cities to take advantage of the amendment.

"But we'll have plenty of time for that before Norman will need it," Bailey said. "We'll be back in session before construction of the dam is completed and before bonds are needed for pipelines, filtration plants and so on."

The plan for the Norman Reservoir calls for Norman, Midwest City and Del City to join in a master conservancy district to finance their end of the \$22 million project. A bill now before Congress calls for federal financing of nearly all of the lake, but some \$10 million to \$12 million could be repaid to the government by the project cities over a 10-year period.

The bill at present is before the irrigation and reclamation subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. The subcommittee, if it can get together a quorum, is scheduled to pass on the measure Monday or Tuesday.

Several Norman residents are in Washington to try to win subcommittee and committee approval of the measure. Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone left Monday, and City Commissioner Fred Reynolds, a Republican, left Wednesday night. Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, was to

Fourth in State

5/12/60

City Ahead of Enid In Census Estimates

BULLETIN

Preliminary figures released by the Census Bureau now indicate that Norman is the fourth largest city in the state. This afternoon Enid's 1960 count was listed at 38,050—793 below Norman's 38,843. Only Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Lawton lead Norman.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—A revision of preliminary census figures showed Lawton had jumped beyond the 60,000 mark while Tulsa's revised total was placed at 255,422.

The increases in southwestern Oklahoma and the city of Tulsa put Oklahoma's 1960 population total ahead of the 1950 count.

Tulsa County has 342,239 residents compared with 251,686 in 1950. The 1950 Tulsa city population 10 years ago was 182,740.

Earlier, it was reported Lawton's preliminary count was 58,556. Lawton will be the third largest city in the state with 60,806.

5/15/60

Dam Project Move Awaits Quorum Vote

The results of 10 years of work and the expenditure of thousands of dollars may depend on the presence or absence of a handful of men in Washington Monday and Tuesday.

The irrigation and reclamation subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet on those days to consider a bill authorizing construction of the Norman Reservoir on the Little River.

A quorum of 12 members of the 23-member subcommittee is necessary to hold a meeting.

Meet Postponed

The group was scheduled to meet about two weeks ago, but a quorum could not be obtained.

If it does not meet this week chances are slim of getting the bill through the full committee and passed by the House this session. It already has been approved by the Senate.

If the measure is not approved this session, supporters of the dam will have to begin anew next year, getting another bill introduced and later attending hearings by both chambers.

Some 10 years of work on the project led to the introduction of the present bill last year. Hearings before House and Senate committees and other business through the years have required numerous trips to Washington by backers of the dam.

Cityans in Capital

In an effort to get together the necessary quorum of the subcommittee, several Norman officials are in Washington. Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone arrived there Monday, and City Commissioner Fred Reynolds, a Republican, left Norman Wednesday night. Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, flew out Thursday, and State Sen. Robert L. Bailey is to leave this afternoon.

Reservoir Clears Obstacle ^{5/16/68}

The Little River Reservoir project was approved this morning by the Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee by a vote of 14 to 4, Rep. John Jarman and members of the Norman delegation in Washington reported to The Transcript following the session.

The subcommittee approved the bill authorizing the project, which already has been passed by the Senate, and it now goes to the full committee for consideration.

Jarman said no date has yet been set for the next meeting of the full committee.

Members of the Norman dele-

gation, Harold Cooksey, president of Central Oklahoma Water Users Assn.; State Sen. Robert L. Bailey, City Commissioner Fred Reynolds and John Malone, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, were jubilant over the big vote by which the project was approved, and praised highly the efforts of Jarman and other members of the Oklahoma House delegation in getting out 18 of the 24 members, including Rep. W. N. Aspinall, chairman of the full committee.

They said it is most difficult to get out quorums for committee meetings on Monday morning, because so many congressmen go home over the week-

ends and many do not return until Monday.

Bailey and Reynolds both said Jarman did a tremendous job in getting out the membership. Jarman said he had lots of help from the other members of the House delegation, Rep. Carl Albert, Rep. Tom Steed, Rep. Ed Edmondson, Rep. Page Belcher and Rep. Toby Morris.

Cooksey said Jarman also greatly helped the cause of the bill by arranging with the committee chairman for its consideration ahead of the controversial Burns Creek project in Idaho, which had priority. The controversy has held up action on that bill.

One change was made in the bill, Cooksey said, which was

satisfactory to its supporters. Sec. 5, which provides for the rate of interest cities will pay on their share of the reservoir costs, was changed to set the interest rate at the average interest rate being paid at the time construction starts. Previously it had provided for the current interest rate at the time the project is authorized.

Cooksey said that if the bill is passed by the House the change in the interest rate provision probably will be satisfactory to the Senate.

The meeting of the subcommittee this morning was open to the public, instead of being an executive session as customary, Cooksey said.

ERS—These shoppers were the cold this morning to s offered by Norman stores a once-in-four-years event.

Most stores participating in Gain Day will remain open until 8:30 or 9 p.m. to give other residents a chance at the discount prices. (Transcript Photo)

Little River Project Passes Committee

5/18/60

House Group Stands, 16-1, Behind Dam

Another major step forward came today for the Little River Reservoir project when the bill authorizing it was approved by the full House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee by a vote of 16 to 1.

News of the action was phoned to The Transcript by Rep. John Jarman.

Jarman said Rep. W. N. Aspinall, chairman of the full committee, scheduled the Central Oklahoma project for consideration at the earliest possible time, and it was passed after adoption of several amendments which are not of major significance.

Meeting Planned

The Oklahoma House delegation will meet this week with Aspinall and Rep. Walter E. Rogers, chairman of the subcommittee, which approved the bill Monday, to discuss procedure in trying to get the bill up for early consideration on the floor of the House.

"We can take a lot of satisfaction in our success this week in getting approval of the bill by both the House Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation and the full committee," Jarman said.

"But we still have some difficult hurdles in trying to get a vote on it in the House because Congress is due to adjourn early in July and many major pieces of legislation still await action. However, the Oklahoma House delegation will make every effort to get it reported to the floor for action in the near future.

The Senate passed the bill last September, and no difficulty is expected in getting the Senate to accept the House amendments if the House finally passes the bill before the session ends.

Backers Elated

Four Norman residents who were in Washington pushing the project returned home highly elated Tuesday evening. They are Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Assn.; John F. Malone, Chamber of Commerce manager; City Commissioner Fred Reynolds and state Sen. Robert L. Bailey.

"We're probably in the most favorable position we have been so far," Cooksey said. "We received very courteous and helpful treatment not only from our own congressional delegation but from other members of Congress—both Republican and Democrat.

"It's extremely difficult to get a quorum together at 9:45 on Monday morning because congressmen who have been home frequently are late getting back to their offices. Congratulations are due John Jarman for getting the men out."

The House subcommittee had 19 of its 23 members on hand when it met Monday morning, although one had to leave to attend another meeting. The rest approved the bill, 14-4.

"Those who have not had to work with a bill in Washington don't realize how many channels have to be passed through and how much opposition overcome," Malone said. "This is particularly true in the House, where it's a tremendous chore to get a bill affecting a local region approved by so many congressmen who make up the committee.

"So the fact that we've been able to get hearings on the bill in a short session, to get it

(See Page 2, Column 1)

House Group Okays Project

(Continued From Page One)

through one of the largest subcommittees in the House and then immediately through the full committee is a particularly big tribute to John Jarman and other members of the state delegation.

"We still have some hurdles ahead of us, but every member of the delegation and others have pledged their full support. With this type of backing we should be able to make it."

Reynolds, a Republican, commented happily that "it looks like we won a couple of rounds. We had a lot of cooperation in getting out a quorum, and the Republicans were helping. It was quite a successful trip."

Bailey could not be contacted for comment this noon.

Meet Postponed

5/19/60

The monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors has been postponed indefinitely.

Originally scheduled last Monday, the meeting was put off until this Monday, May 16, but had to be postponed again because Chamber Manager John F. Malone is in Washington.

Reservoir Cleared

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They said it is most difficult to get out quorums for committee meetings on Monday morning, because so many congressmen go home over the week-

Other members of the committee are Don Symcox, co-chairman; Joe Burke, Don Burgess, Don Frenley, William Hardwick, Charles Hooper, D. L. Jackson, Jerry Keen, Phil C. Kidd Jr., William Logan, B. E. Massey, Louis McCall, O. T. McCall, Allen Morain, John H. (Jack) Patten, Robert L. (Buddy) Pendarvis, Joe Ralls, Richard (Dick) Reynolds and H. O. (Hut) Rutherford.

Hearing Friday On Reservoir

5/25
Jarman To Urge
Rules Group Action

Further steps toward House action on the Little River Reservoir project will be taken Friday at a House Rules Committee hearing on the authorization bill.

The bill was approved last week by the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee by a vote of 16 to 1.

News of the Friday hearing was telephoned from Washington to The Transcript today by Rep. John Jarman.

Appearing in behalf of the bill, Jarman said, will be Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.), chairman of the full committee; Rep. Walter E. Rogers (D-Tex.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Irrigation and Reclamation, and Jarman, who heads the Oklahoma delegation seeking House approval of the Central Oklahoma project.

Jarman will explain to the committee the merits of the bill and will emphasize the need for action by the House before Congress adjourns early in July. He will ask the committee to clear the bill at the earliest possible time, he told The Transcript.

The Senate approved the authorization bill last September.

but work elsewhere.

A subcommittee of Don Symcox, B. E. Massey and Robert L. Pendarvis was named to study a possible program for the group.



BRIG. GEN. H. W. BUSE JR.

Buse has served as commander of the Marine Corps Recruit at Parris Island, S. C., chief staff for the Fleet Marine in the Pacific and, just prior to his present appointment, as chief of staff for fleet marine force at the Atlantic. He was promoted to his present rank in August 1958. Buse, his wife, Dorothy, and their two children, Barbara and Henry W. III, 18, live in Annapolis, Md.

\$19 Million Water Bill Gets Boost

5/27

By Allan Cromley

(Times Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — Despite some opposition, legislation authorizing \$19 million reservoir east of Norman was cleared Friday for house debate, probably late next week.

The house rules committee, without whose approval the measure would have needed a two-third's vote on the house floor, okayed the bill and left it open to amendments on the house floor.

Rider Opposed

Causing most of the opposition was a senate-imposed rider that lowers the rate of interest on projects in a billion-dollar system of reservoirs on the upper Colorado River on the western slope of the Continental Divide.

This was violently opposed by Rep. Craig Hosmer (R-Calif.), whose southern California constituents contend the Colorado project will eventually create shortages in water available to them downstream.

Great Need Claimed

Committee chairman Willis Smith (D-Va.) commented, "It looks like this is a mere water supply bill." He referred to the absence in the bill of provisions for irrigation on which most measures of this type earn their federal justification.

"There is a great need for it in central Oklahoma," said Rep. John Jarman, house sponsor of the measure.

The proposed dam, on Little River 12 miles east of Norman, would impound municipal water for Norman, Midwest City, Del City and Tinker airforce base, if the base needs it.

The project including aqueducts to the municipalities would cost about \$27 millions of which local interests would

eventually re-imburse the government \$20,752,000, plus interest, through water revenues over a 50-year period.

Rep. Clarence Brown (R-Ohio) a sometimes influential member of the committee, objected to federal financing of the aqueduct system. "The people down there apparently want to just sit on their fanny and let the government bring the water to them," he said.

Project Defended

However, Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D-Colo.) chairman of the house interior committee, defended the Norman project as a "good project." He conceded that he also wanted to see the interest rate lowered in the financing of the \$86 millions Curecanti dam near Montrose, Colo., a part of the billion dollar Colorado river's storage project.

A provision in the bill, which opponents called a rider, cuts from 4 1/8 to 2 3/4 percent the interest rate on the Curecanti and several other projects. This makes it easier to justify them and to finance part of them through power revenues.

Saylor Changes Stand

Rep. John Saylor (R-Pa.) who consistently has been a burr under the saddle of reclamation-minded house

Controversial Rate 'Rider'

By Allan Cromley

(Oklahoman-Times Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON — A \$19 million tail wagged a billion-dollar dog this week when the house rules committee advanced a bill authorizing a water supply reservoir on Little River east of Norman.

Cleared for two hours of house debate next Wednesday was a seemingly provincial measure allowing the government to help finance a new source of water for Norman, Midwest City, Del City and Tinker Air Force Base.

But included in the bill was a provision that affects the future of enormous proposed reclamation and power projects on the upper Colorado River, and eventually the water supply of Los Angeles.

That's why the bill created more than the usual stir

when it came before the rules committee, probably biggest hurdle for passage by congress.

The price tag on the Little River reservoir is about \$19 million plus more than \$3.2 million for water treatment facilities.

Uncle Sam would put up the \$19 million, of which local communities would eventually reimburse about \$10 million, plus interest, from water revenues over a year period.

There were objections in the rules committee that this was a precedent-setting subsidy, that municipalities should finance their own waterworks.

But the real controversy, raised in committee and certain to flare up on the house floor, is tucked away in Section 9 of the bill. It was added by the senate last year. Completely unrelated to the Norman project, it

10 Years Bring Great Ch

By JACK BAGBY

Eleven thousand, eight hundred thirty-seven persons.

That's how much Norman's population has grown in the last 10 years, according to preliminary figures of the official U.S. decennial census.

But the significance of that increase is far greater than having 23,674 more legs walking around.

For Norman, the 44 per cent gain in population—from 27,006 to 38,843—has meant the construction of thousands of new homes, increased retail sales, higher bank deposits, more telephones and more gas, electric and water meters—a wider and

better economy all the way down the line.

A large portion of the city's population—nearly 13,000 — is composed of University students and Central State Hospital patients. But the numbers of students and patients have both declined slightly since 1950. This means that the increase in permanent residents actually is more than 11,837.

A comparison of some statistics, for today and 10 years ago, points up the real meaning of the gain.

Since Jan. 1, 1950, for example, 2,873 new homes have been built in the city, an average of more than 23 a month. Construction during this time—in-

cluding several million dollars worth at the University—amounted to \$41,707,238.

Norman's retail sales during the 1949-50 fiscal year came to \$18,845,179, reports of sales collections by the Oklahoma Tax Commission show. During 1958-59 fiscal year this amount had nearly doubled—to \$34,229,525.

Bank deposits 10 years ago were \$14,614,603. At the beginning of the 1960 calendar year they stood at \$28,553,791, an all-time record that also was nearly double the 1950 figure.

Telephones? On Jan. 1, 1960, the Norman exchange had 8,000 sets in operation, including 5

Controversial Rate 'Rider' Muddies Little River Bill

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Commerce forum and is expected to report on the project's status at that time.

vides in effect that interest rates on a \$1 billion system of reservoirs on the upper Colorado River shall be 2.75 percent instead of 4 and one-eighth percent, as authorized in 1956.

This seems like a piddling change but it adds up to untold millions in the cost of financing the huge bureau of reclamation power and irrigation complex on the other side of the continental divide.

The upper Colorado system consists of four major reservoirs and 11 participating projects. Part of their cost must be paid back to the government, with interest, through sale of hydro-electric power.

The margin between cost and estimated benefits is so slim the fate of some dams rests on the interest rate charged by the government.

That's where the joker in the Norman project legis-

lation will probably generate noise on the house floor. It would lower existing interest rate requirements to the average rate on 15-year government borrowings. Existing law forces the government to charge the current rate on long-term loans, which has risen in the last few years.

The immediate beneficiary of the proposed new interest rate policy — and it is a policy — would be the \$86 million Curecanti Dam on the Gunnison River near Montrose, Colo. Also easier to finance would be the Great Glen Canyon and Flaming Gorge Dams.

With this background, it's apparent why the Norman project was shoved ahead of others in its recent trip through the house interior committee.

The chairman is Rep. Wayne Aspinall, a Democrat from — yes, Colorado in fact, from the western slope, site of much of the upper Colorado system.

The only mystery is why he didn't push the legislation through before now.

He argued the Norman project is "good legislation," and countered a Republican charge of "boondoggle" with the observation that Oklahoma contributes to the reclamation fund but doesn't often get an opportunity to enjoy the gravy.

Republicans Clarence Brown of Ohio and Leo Allen of Illinois contended that by allowing a decrease in up-

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Telephones? On Jan. 1, 1950, the Norman exchange had 8,960 sets in operation, including 5,967

residential phones, 2,658 in businesses and 335 in rural areas. Today that total is 16,105 telephones—10,050 residential, 5,546 business and 509 rural.

Utility meters added in the city in the last 10 years reflect similar increases.

The Oklahoma Natural Gas Co. reported 6,412 meters in operation here in August, 1950. As of the end of April this year the figure was 9,377.

The Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. between Jan. 1, 1950, and Jan. 1, 1960, registered a 59 per cent increase overall. In the Norman district, which includes Noble and some rural areas adjacent to Norman, resi-

dential meters increased from 5,515 to 8,777 and total meters from 6,453 to 9,682.

At the beginning of 1950 the city had 5,046 water meters in service. That figure today is 8,556.

Postal receipts provide another index of the city's economy. Although an increase in postal rates last year accounted for some gain, nothing but a growing, prosperous population can account for the fact that these receipts doubled in less than 10 years.

Total receipts in 1950 were \$206,100. In 1959 they were \$411,778, and business so far this year is running well ahead of last year's.

bers from the west, surgly spoke in favor of committee approval. had asked highly anistic questions during or committee hear- but somehow resolved opposition since they held.

Comments Critical

member of the rules ittee defended the ure during the discus- and there were highly al comments from , Brown, Rep. Leo Al- R-III.), and Rep. Ha- Budge (R-Idaho). How- when the committee its vote in secret ses- the measure passed, reported. He said was no count taken only a few nos were

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Precedent Claimed

at one point called il "ridiculous" in its ion to lower interest on the Colorado proj- d Brown commented, U. S. treasury and ers are getting soaked

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ssed by the house the ll be returned to the for adjustments of amendments. Senate e is viewed as prob-

Report From Washington

per Colorado interest rates, the government will be lending money at a lower rate than it is paying for the money it borrows.

The difference, claimed the GOP members, comes out of the pocket of the taxpayers.

But aside from the issue of government economy is another controversy, which is certain to be well-aired Wednesday. It will be raised by representatives from southern California.

Why in the world should they be concerned with the upper Colorado?

The answer is that they want to tap the lower Colorado for thirsty Los Angeles, which recently completed an aqueduct designed to carry 1,200,000 acre-feet a year. (An acre-foot equals 325,000 gallons.)

If water is diverted upstream by the Colorado projects, southern Californians fear the Colorado River will be comparatively a mere trickle by the time it reaches the Los Angeles and other intakes.

That's why Rep. Craig Hosmer, a Long Beach Republican, attacked the Norman bill as "jumping into the middle of the upper Colorado boondoggle." He wants to delay the upper Colorado dams as long as possible.

Rep. John Jarman, house sponsor, defended the bill as "an orderly development of our national resources. . . ."

Hosmer and a good part of the big California delegation will probably attempt to knock the Colorado interest rate provision out of the bill, and, failing that, kill the bill.

If the bill is passed by the house, it is almost certain to be passed by the senate, said an assistant to Sen. Robert S. Kerr.

If you're wondering why the controversial interest rate "rider" was attached to the Norman project in the senate last year, the answer leads you to Sen. Clinton P. Anderson, (D-N. M.), second ranking Democrat on the senate interior committee.

By making the Curecanti Dam easier to finance, the provision leaves more money in a special reclamation fund for other projects.

This in turn makes more feasible the proposed but not-yet-authorized San Juan-Chama project in Anderson's New Mexico, which diverts water from Theisan Juan River to a tributary of the Rio Grande.

It was Anderson who insisted on attaching the interest rate provision.

No telling where the trails of legislative interests lead when it comes to spending money.

Mrs. Jeanne Johnson, district census taker at Oklahoma City, said a clerical error is still a mystery to her. A revision dropped the city from fourth to seventh in size among state cities.

The revised preliminary report Friday gave Norman only 34,042 persons—a sharp drop from the 38,843 announced May 10 as the city's 1960 population.

The Chamber of Commerce earlier had estimated the city's size at about 39,000.

"I was just sick when I learned of the mistake," said Mrs. Johnson. "I counted and I recounted, but 34,042 is the right figure."

The mistake was uncovered last Tuesday or Wednesday, she said, while census workers were re-checking county totals. Cleveland County was credited with 47,329 persons, 53 more than the 47,276 previously announced.

The error in Norman's total apparently was made, said Mrs. Johnson, as a clerk transcribed figures from a local enumeration district book.

"It may have been that the

clerk wrote 4,801 instead of 4 or something like that," she explained, "or a rural Norman area may have been included incorrectly in the city's count.

"What book the numbers were taken from, though, is still a complete mystery to me. Our clerks worked a whole day trying to find the mistake."

The census office closed Friday after 4½ months of work in the decennial head count and Mrs. Johnson could not be reached Saturday for comment.

The Transcript found her today, working in the Oklahoma City campaign office of B. Hayden Crawford, former U.S. attorney at Tulsa now running for the Senate.

Population estimates for Norman enumeration districts, which were received prior to the actual count, were "just awful," she said.

While most estimates are in exact numbers, Norman's were in round figures, she said. One district in which a population of 1,200 had been estimated, an enumerator told her, was just a field in 1950 and is still a field today.

"We never have tracked down where the estimates came from, either," Mrs. Johnson said. "They must have been made by local people, though."

One factor which could have accounted for the higher estimates here, she said, is that perhaps total OU enrolment was included instead of just those OU students living in Norman.

supply of municipal and industrial water to meet their evergrowing water needs. The need is great because wells are the only source of water supply for the entire area and there is ample proof that these wells are being depleted.

"Extensive study and consideration have been given this project by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board, as well as many private organizations and individuals. It is felt that the most logical solution to the problem is the multiple-purpose project provided for in S. 1892. Let me remind the House that this project will be reimbursable to a large extent through the sale of municipal and industrial water.

Legality Noted

"Mr. Chairman, on Page 9 of the committee report is set out a March 28, 1958, memorandum from Elmer F. Bennett, solicitor, to the commissioner of reclamation. This memorandum details the legal conclusion of the solicitor that a reclamation project, which is not of itself an irrigation project, but is a project carrying the same authorization as the Norman Project, is legal under the reclamation laws and policies that have been adopted since 1902.

"The provision of municipal water supply has become a major accomplishment of the reclamation program. The Reclamation Project Act of 1939 opened the door for greater attention to municipal water needs, and since then the municipal water supply aspect of reclamation projects has become more and more important. The Water Supply Act of 1958 expressed the intent of

House Clears Norman Lake On Little River

Senate's Approval Likely But Threat Of Veto Expected

By Allan Cromley
(Oklahoman-Times Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON—The house Wednesday passed and sent to the senate a bill authorizing a \$19 million municipal water supply reservoir on Little River 13 miles east of Norman.

The measure is virtually certain of senate approval but faces a possible veto at the White House because of an extraneous provision relating to a billion-dollar system of reservoirs on the upper Colorado River.

However, the Norman project could still be authorized as part of a \$1.5 billion rivers and harbors catch-all bill, into which it was inserted Tuesday by the senate public works committee.

Colorado Involved

House debaters Wednesday were more interested in the Colorado River "tail" of the bill than in the Norman "dog."

Part of the cost of the Colorado River projects is repayable to the government from power revenues. The controversial section, inserted in the bill by the senate last year, allows a decrease in the interest rate on the government money.

Thus, from the beginning of the afternoon-long discussion the merits or demerits of the Norman project took a back seat to the argument over the upper Colorado project—a system of four dams and 11 related projects in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico.

Opposition Voiced

Rep. Clarence Brown (R-Ohio) voiced the sentiment of the opposition when he said he had no objection to the Oklahoma municipalities "receiving the water they most seriously need . . . but I cannot swallow Section Nine." That is the upper Colorado provision.

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Brown charged that the budget bureau is opposed to the upper Colorado provision, that the treasury department is "very alarmed," and that it would be "disastrous and unfair" to the taxpayers.

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Jarman Praised

Rep. John Jarman, house sponsor of the bill, argued that the Norman project is desperately needed by the three municipalities, that reclamation laws embrace municipal water needs as justification for government-financed reservoirs, and that it is "engineeringly feasible, economically justified, and financially feasible."

He was praised by Oklahoma colleagues for "untiring efforts" to advance the legislation. Rep. Carl Albert credited Jarman with getting the bill to the house floor.

Rep. Clare Hoffman, erratic and crusty Michigan Republican, opposed the bill but wryly praised Jarman for "so eloquently and persuasively getting the bill through the house."

Costs Disputed

Hosmer contended the Colorado interest rate provision would cost taxpayers "between \$200 million and \$2 billion." There were no takers of his challenge to cite any bureau of reclamation estimates of costs stemming from the interest rate decrease.

Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D-Colo.) chairman of the house interior committee, conceded, "There's no way of figuring what the amount will be," but he declared, "This isn't a handout to the upper Colorado."

Rep. James A. Haley (D-Fla.) opposed the measure as "Nothing but purely and simply a municipal reservoir project." He said committee testimony indicated that the bonded indebtedness of Norman is \$2,245,000, from which he apparently concluded the city could afford to finance its own water improvements.

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Belcher Follows Party

The bill was supported by Rep. John Saylor (R-Pa.) who in the past has been a foe of many reclamation measures. He actively opposed the Washita project several years ago.

The house interior committee slightly amended the upper Colorado provision so as to prevent it from applying retroactively to funds already spent.

The house was forced into a roll call vote on whether to adopt the house amendment. It carried 228 to 123 on largely a party line vote, with the Republicans opposed to the house version.

Rep. Page Belcher, Enid Republican, voted with his party. Oklahoma's other house members voted for the amendment, except for Rep. Toby Morris, who was absent.

The house version is believed to be slightly more palatable to the budget bureau than the senate version. Republican strategy was to revert to the senate version and thus insure a presidential veto.

Ike Expected To ^{6/8/60} Sign Dam Bill Before Tour

President Eisenhower's signature on a bill authorizing construction of the \$19 million Norman Reservoir was expected almost momentarily in Washington today.

Both the House and Senate this morning rushed through approval, at the request of the White House, the correction of a technical error in the wording of the bill. Don McBride, administrative assistant to Sen. Robert S. Kerr, said the bill was back on the President's desk shortly before noon, Oklahoma time.

The nature of the error was not disclosed, but it was reported Tuesday afternoon that the bill was recalled to Congress by a House-Senate resolu-

tion for correction. It had been passed by the House, some minor amendments approved by the Senate and then sent to

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Gordon Allott (R-Colo) said today he is optimistic that President Eisenhower will sign the Norman reservoir project authorization bill this week. Allott said his optimism is based on talk with cabinet officials and White House advisers.

the President for signature last Thursday.

McBride told The Transcript this morning that the error had been discovered by the White House staff and that "the White House requested special and

immediate action" to make the correction.

"I'm of the opinion he (Eisenhower) will sign the bill before he leaves," McBride added. "If ~~we~~ were going to veto it, I don't think he would have cared about the error."

The President is scheduled to leave Sunday on a tour of the Far East.

The bill calls for the government to finance all of the construction of the dam, but the participating cities — Norman, Midwest City and Del City — would repay some \$13 million of the cost over a 50-year period. The cities also would finance an additional \$3 million worth of pipelines and treatment plants.

Norman Reservoir Bill Sent To Ike After Senate Okay



Little in the House of Representatives today.

But, in the event it is not voted into law, Sen. Robert S. Kerr has added what he termed this morning "sort of an insurance policy."

Kerr announced that he had incorporated the \$19 million Norman project in a \$1.5 billion omnibus Senate bill that authorizes 128 water projects in 36 states.

Passage Seen

The bill before the House estimates the cost of the project at about \$19 million, of which nearly \$13 million would be repaid to the government over a period of 50 years by the project cities — Norman, Midwest City and Del City. An additional \$3 million for pumping stations and water treatment plants would be financed directly by the three cities.

"It's my judgement that the House will pass the Norman bill just as it was passed over here," Kerr said from his Washington office. "But there is a fight over an amendment that was added by a Senate subcommittee. In the event the House detours the bill or it gets vetoed by the President, we've got an insurance policy by putting it in the omnibus bill without the added amendment."

Provision Attacked

The controversial amendment to which the senator referred does not deal directly with the Norman project. It provides that interest rates on money repaid to the government for a billion-dollar system of reservoirs on the

Kerr Writes Veto Insurance on Dam

By Allan Cromley
(Oklahoma-Times Washington Bureau) 6/1/60

WASHINGTON—Sen. Robert S. Kerr took out veto insurance Tuesday on a bill authorizing construction of a municipal water supply reservoir east of Norman.

The measure is scheduled for house debate Wednesday, but Kerr also slipped it into an omnibus rivers and harbors authorization in the senate public works committee.

He feared the ravages of the legislative process and also a presidential veto if the individual bill is passed by the house and senate.

Along with other provisions affecting Oklahoma, the Norman water project was incorporated into a \$1.5 billion catch-all which authorizes 128 navigation, flood control and related projects in 36 states.

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than double the size passed last year by the house. The senate committee added 78 projects to 50 already approved by the lower chamber.

Kerr said it will give Oklahoma's water development program a "tremendous boost."

The bill directs the corps of engineers and bureau of reclamation to include recreational values when balancing benefits against costs of a proposed project.

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Another section would provide additional road money for relocations involved at

Dam Backers See Approval By Eisenhower

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate today agreed to minor House amendments and sent to the White House a bill to authorize construction of the Norman multiple-purpose reclamation project.

The project, to cost an estimated \$19,042,000 at 1958 prices, would provide municipal and industrial water for Norman, Del City and Midwest City and supplemental water for Tinker Air Force Base and Oklahoma City if needed.

Interest Rate Changed

It also would provide flood control, fish and wildlife and recreation benefits. The government would be repaid with interest over a 50-year period by water users for money spent for municipal water supply purposes.

A controversial section of the bill would amend the Colorado River Storage Contract Act by changing the

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TWO-CITY COMMENDATION—Rep. John Jarman (right) receives congratulations from Norman City Commissioner June Benson and Bob Quinlan, city manager of Midwest City, for his work on the

Norman Reservoir bill. A delegation from Del City also was on hand at the Chamber of Commerce forum at which Jarman spoke today. (Transcript Photo)

Veto Threat Viewed

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Token Opposition

Final House action came after several hours of debate in which California and Ohio Republicans opposed the Colorado project but expressed only token opposition to the Little River project.

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Kerr praised highly the leadership of Jarman in steering the bill through the House. Jarman said he had the united support of other Oklahoma members of the House, and all who were on the floor spoke for the bill during the afternoon debate.

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The controversial amendment to which the senator referred does not deal directly with the Norman project. It provides that interest rates on money repaid to the government for a billion-dollar system of reservoirs on the upper Colorado River will be 10 per cent, rather than the 5 per cent provided in the bill for these projects in 1956.

This provision was attacked by California and Florida. It was certain the House floor has strong support from Colorado.

Kerr also is for the amendment. He will be glad to sign and signed amendment House in the measure President, to the Norm dropped from Kerr added.

Two Bills Even if the measure, however, it is at least two bills. One would be beneficial to the reservoir, Kerr said. Another would provide for other property owners taken for such projects.

"These are acquisition and provide and equitable held dated," Kerr said. When the bill is passed, SH 9 will have to be rerouted, and several property owners in the Little River valley are contesting the construction of the dam.

A third provision of the omnibus bill "applies more to future projects as a better economic justification for their construction," Kerr said. It allows the inclusion of recreational benefits, up to 10 per cent of the project cost, when balancing benefits against costs of proposed projects. But backers of the Norman Reservoir have pointed out that it faces no opposition in this respect, since the benefit-cost ratio already is figured as about 2½ to 1.

Kerr, who is chairman of the Senate subcommittee that inserted the Norman project into the catch-all bill, admitted that the inclusion of a Bureau of Reclamation project in a bill authorizing public works by the Corps of Engineers is highly unusual.

"I just asked the committee to do it," and they did," he added. As for the chances of the omnibus bill being made law, Kerr replied with a smile in his voice that "we don't aim to pass a bill that will be vetoed."

Kerr said he would have cared about the error. The President is scheduled to leave Sunday on a tour of the Far East.

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But at the same time Jarman warned of the possibility of a presidential veto and said that "we still have a lot of work before us."

Jarman spoke at the Chamber's Friday forum less than 24 hours after the Senate gave final approval to the \$19 million project and sent it to the White House, where the President will have 10 days in which to veto it or sign it into law.

"But there is a part of the bill—Section 9—that can mean a veto by the administration," Jarman said. The section, unrelated in itself to the Norman project, would lower the interest-rate formula on the upper Colorado river storage proposals.

"There is real concern in this area," Jarman said, "but I can tell you that the chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Rep. Wayne Aspinall of Colorado, has held discussions with key people in the Bureau of the Budget. There was no commitment made, but the feeling was that it was a friendly and harmonious meeting,

and there is reason for some hope that the bill will get a presidential signature."

If the bill is vetoed, Jarman said, there will be no chance of taking another bill through the House and Senate this session.

"But we can all take heart in knowing that our senators were able to put the Little River project in an omnibus bill on rivers and harbors, without Section 9, as a backstop to a possible veto."

Even this bill, however, faces a tough fight on the Senate and House floors and "a real possibility of a veto," Jarman said. But he also indicated he believes Congress could muster the necessary two-thirds majority to override this veto.

The congressman, who guided the Norman bill through the House, expressed appreciation to "all of the people from Norman, Midwest City and Del City who have come to Washington to help put the pieces together in a whole. Speaking for all the Oklahoma delegation, I can say we're grateful to you for your time and effort."

If the project is authorized by law, Jarman warned, "we face a very hard job next year of trying to get the money—first for a survey and finally to begin construction."

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Kerr also said united Oklahoma support for the bill was "the finest demonstration he had ever seen of cooperation among the Oklahoma delegation and with other western congressmen interested in water development projects.

Importance Cited

Jarman declared in his remarks that the bill is of tremendous importance to not only his congressional district but all of Oklahoma.

"Speaking for many Oklahomans (See Page 2, Column 7)

6/13/60

Printing Error Delays Action On Reservoir

WASHINGTON (AP) — Proponents of a bill to authorize the Norman, Okla., multi-purpose project today looked for early action on the measure by President Eisenhower.

Earlier, an aide to Sen. Gorton Allott (R-Colo), told newsmen a presidential assistant had informed Allott's office that Eisenhower had signed the bill before he left for Alaska Sunday. Allott's office said the report was erroneous.

Bill Sent Back

What happened, Allott was informed, was that the bill was sent back to Congress for correction of a printing error.

There was no immediate indication as how long it will be before the bill is corrected and returned to the White House.

The bill is designed primarily to provide municipal and industrial water supplies.

The project calls for a dam on Little River east of Norman to store water for Norman, Del City and Midwest City, Okla. and for Tinker Air Force Base, if needed.

The project which would be built by the Reclamation Bureau, also would include flood control, fish and wildlife and recreation benefits. It would not provide water for irrigation. Cost at 1958 prices was estimated at \$19,042,000.

Section Debated

But a section of the bill—which generated a heated controversy during its consideration—changes the interest rate formula for repayment of power and municipal water allocations of future projects under the Colorado River Storage Project Act.

It would, under present conditions, reduce the interstate rate from about $4\frac{1}{8}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent for power allocation at the Curecanti Project in Colorado and power and municipal water allocations at projects authorized by the act where work has not yet been started.

Opponents claimed the formula would cost taxpayers large sums of money compared with rates which otherwise would be charged.

Interest rates on the Norman project would be substantially the same as those provided in the act for future Colorado Basin projects.

Repayment Due

Under the bill, water users would repay the government, with interest over a 50-year period, the money it advanced for water supply purposes.

The government, however, would pay for that portion of the water facilities for Tinker AFB, as well as for the flood control, fish and wildlife and recreation benefits.

After heated debate over the interest rate amendment, a provision to which some government agencies objected, the Norman project also was included in the water projects authorization bill pending in the Senate.

Sen. Robert S. Kerr (D-Okla), chairman of a subcommittee handling such projects, explained that if the separate bill were vetoed by Eisenhower because of opposition to the interest rate section, authorization for the project still would be included in the omnibus bill without the controversial interest provision.



LITTLE RIVER RESERVOIR 12 miles east of Norman has been authorized in a bill signed Monday by President Eisenhower. The \$19 million reservoir, a bureau of reclamation project, is scheduled to supply municipal and industrial water to Norman, Midwest City and Del

City and possibly Tinker Air Force Base. The project will include a dam and aqueduct system. The lake will have a capacity of about 364,000 acre-feet.

\$150,000 Inserted

6/30/60

Group Approves Lake Study Fund

An appropriation of \$150,000 for advance planning and surveys on the \$19 million Norman Reservoir was approved Wednesday by the Senate appropriations committee.

A bill authorizing construction of the reservoir on the Little River east of Norman was signed into law Monday by President Eisenhower.

The \$150,000 item was added by the Senate committee to a House - approved appropriation for the Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Interior power administrations. Included in the \$4 billion appropriation by the Senate panel was about \$50 million for construction and planning of rivers and reservoirs in Oklahoma.

Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney pushed the

addition of the planning funds for the Norman Reservoir project. Rep. John Jarman now is expected to guide the appropriation through the House.

Signing of the bill by the President cleared the way for introduction of a measure in the next session of Congress to obtain funds for actual construction of the project.

The lake, expected to be completed within four years from the date of the appropriation, will cover from 13 to 20 square miles and will supply municipal and industrial water to Norman, Midwest City, Del City and, if needed, to Tinker Air Force Base.

The 7,420-foot dam will be built about one mile south of Little Axe, or 12 miles east of Norman.

Signing Hailed

Ike Approves 3-City Lake

By Allan Cromley

(Times Washington Bureau)

6/27/61

WASHINGTON—President Eisenhower Monday signed legislation authorizing construction of a \$19 million reservoir on Little River some 12 miles east of Norman.

The bureau of reclamation project is designed to supply municipal and industrial water to Norman, Midwest City, Del City and Tinker Air Force Base.

Lowers Interest

The President approved the bill despite a provision believed distasteful to the budget bureau. It lowers the interest rate on money repaid to the government for construction of a billion-dollar system of reservoirs on the upper Colorado River.

Speeded Up

Rep. John Jarman, house sponsor of the bill, said, "we are justified in being elated . . . there have been many road blocks . . . in achieving final passage and the president's signature."

The President's signature was crucially timely. It came just as the senate appropriations committee was completing the final draft of a nationwide public works appropriations bill.

Sen. Mike Monroney is a member of the committee,

(See NORMAN—Page 6)

Ike Signs Bill For 3-City Lake

(Continued From Page 1)

and Sen. Robert S. Kerr is an ex officio member. A spokesman for Kerr said the two senators will attempt to add \$150,000 to the bill for advance planning and surveys on the Norman project.

An appropriation for commencement of construction will be sought next year.

The legislation was passed last year by the senate and seemed headed for oblivion this year in the house interior and insular affairs committee. It was stuck behind a backlog of legislation and seemed to face opposition from the administration.

However, committee chairman Wayne Aspinall, of western Colorado, was understandably anxious to secure a lower interest rate on the upper Colorado reservoirs. With help from Oklahomans, he moved the legislation along.

Left Behind

It was sent to the White House June 2, but a technical flaw was discovered and it was returned to congress for correction. By the time it got back to the White House, President Eisenhower had left on his Far Eastern trip. He returned Sunday and the bill became law Monday.

The project consists of a dam and aqueduct system to carry water to the three participating municipalities and Tinker—although the house committee heard testimony Tinker will not need the water.

Cost Named

The dam will be an earth structure with a crest length of about 7,400 feet and a height of 98 feet above the streambed. The reservoir will have a capacity of about 364,000 acre-feet. There are 325,000 gallons in an acre-foot.

Should the central Oklahoma master conservancy district construct the aqueduct system, the federal cost would come to about \$12,920,000—consisting of \$11,511,000 for dam and reservoir; \$315,000 for "minimum basic recreational facilities;" and \$1,094,000 for that portion of the aqueduct system allocable to furnishing water to Tinker.

Be Costly

The remaining cost of the aqueducts, to be borne by the conservancy district under a plan for joint development, would be \$6,122,000.

In either joint or all-federal construction the conservancy district would build and pay for the necessary water treatment works at an estimated cost of \$3,227,000 not included in the overall \$19 million total.

Have 50 Years

If the government builds the aqueduct system as well as the dam, which it probably will do, the three municipalities will have 50 years to repay the government \$13,508,000, plus interest, from water revenues.

Officials of Del City, Midwest City and Norman

seemed pleased with approval of the Norman water project.

"Big Boom"

Dr. Robert Rayan, Norman mayor, said the project will be "a big boom to Norman." "I think it will make everybody happy," he added.

Ray Trent, Del City mayor, said, "I think it is a real boost for Del City because it will give us an opportunity to look forward to our own water supply. I might add it was a real surprise. I think it is real gratifying for all the people who have worked so hard in making this a reality."

"It's Great"

City manager Bob Quinlan, Midwest City, had this to say: "I think it is great. We will now start planning from the standpoint of integrating the future supply into Midwest City's system. I am sure the council will be very delighted in the signing, but there is still a big job ahead."

City Postpones Paving Events

7/6/60

A celebration to mark the completion of paving on West Main Street has been postponed from its tentative Sept. 12 date, John F. Malone, Chamber of Commerce manager, said today.

A new date will be set later this week when Malone and State Sen. Robert Bailey meet with representatives of the Boecking Construction Co., the contractor.

Date Unacceptable

"Work will not be finished in time for Sept. 12 to be acceptable," Malone said.

State square dancers are invited to the outdoor event which will open a week of special bargains and values from Main Street merchants. The Retail Trade Committee is preparing the plans.

Ray Quintana, Boecking office manager, said today that the project should be "99 per cent completed in 30 days."

"We're working on the brick center median right now," Quintana said, "and averaging about 200 to 300 feet per day. We have about a quarter-mile completed right now."

More Work Due

"After that is completed, there are shoulder work, sodding and the installation of some guard rail to be done. It's mostly a clean-up job right now, and if the weather holds...

6/26/60

Ike Signs Bill For Reservoir On Little River

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Eisenhower signed into law Monday a bill authorizing construction of a \$19 million dam and reservoir on Little River near Norman, Okla.

The project will provide supplemental water supply for the cities of Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

The new law also eases financing for the entire upper Colorado river reclamation program. A rider provides a longer period on which to figure the interest rate base for future projects in the upper Colorado storage basin.

The new formula would set the interest on the basis of a 15-year average preceding construction. Interest charges now are figured on the cost to the government to borrow money the year prior to start of construction on any project.

Immediate effect of the financing change would be to lower the interest rate from about $4\frac{1}{8}$ to about $2\frac{3}{4}$ percent on the Curecanti and Florida projects in Colorado.

This change was insisted upon by Sens. Clinton P. Anderson and Dennis Chavez, New Mexico Democrats.

In a joint statement, Sen. Gordon Allott (R-Colo.) and Rep. Wayne Aspinall (D-Colo.) called the bill "the single most important action in this session of congress for development of the mountain west."

President Signs Bill Authorizing Norman Reservoir Project

President Eisenhower today signed into law a bill authorizing construction of the \$19 million Norman Reservoir on the Little River east of Norman.

The lake, when completed, will cover from 13 to 20 square miles and will supply water to Norman, Midwest City, Del City and, if needed, to Tinker Air Force Base.

With a shore line ranging from 76 to nearly 100 miles, depending upon lake level, it will provide a recreation area larger than any within 100 miles of Norman, along with irrigation and flood-control benefits, fish and wildlife resources and an expected attraction to industry locate in the area.

Word of the signing was relayed to The Transcript by Rep. John Jarman after he had received the report from the White House. Jarman made the announcement on behalf of Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney and himself.

The passage of the measure clears the way for introduction of a bill in the next session of Congress to obtain funds for the beginning of the project.

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, said if the funds are appropriated next year, the 7,420-foot-long dam should be completed within four years from the date of the appropriation. The dam site is

about one mile south of Little Axe, or 12 miles east of Norman.

The exact size of the proposed reservoir has not been determined, Cooksey said, and is not specified in the bill as finally passed. But the dam will be a minimum of 98 feet in height, backing up the lake for at least nine miles along the Little River to the west and northwest and nearly 12 miles along Hog Creek to the north. It will cover at least 8,760 acres, an area larger than Lake Murray.

An increase in the size of the dam and reservoir was suggested during Senate subcommittee hearings last year, and Cook-

sey said the final size will be determined by "the expediency of the situation" and studies by the Bureau of Reclamation.

The only restriction in the bill signed by the President is the amount of federal participation—\$19,042,000. In addition to this amount, the three project cities will be expected to construct a water-treatment plant at an estimated cost of \$3,227,000.

Of the federal funds, at least \$10,776,600 will be repaid by the project cities over a 50-year period with revenue from the sale of water from the reservoir. This amount may be increased to around \$13 million

if the government does not participate in the cost on behalf of Tinker Field.

Final approval of the bill by the President climaxes more than 10 years of work by the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the three cities, members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation and other agencies. It was signed by Eisenhower despite objections by a number of congressmen to a controversial section that had nothing to do with the Norman project.

The section changes the interest rate formula for the repayment to the government of allocations for power and municip-

pal water supplies on the Colorado River Storage Project. In effect, it lowers the interest rate from about 4½ to 2½ per cent. The amendment was inserted by the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and brought a fight on the floor of the House June 1. But the amendment was approved by a vote of 228-123, and the bill was then passed by a voice vote.

Interest rates on the Norman project would be substantially the same as those provided for future Colorado Basin projects.

Concern over the groundwater supply from which most of the cities of central Oklahoma draw their water was expressed as early as 1930, and

the possibility of obtaining a surface supply was discussed as far back as 1936.

But the first move to bring the three cities together in the project came in the early 1950's and the COWUA was formed in 1953.

In 1954 a plan of development of the project was prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation, and this report later was approved by the governors of all states of the Arkansas River Basin, the federal agencies of the Inter-Agency Committee on Water Resources and, in 1958, by the Department of the Interior and Bureau of the Budget.

The bill authorizing construction of the project was introduc-

ed in the Senate by Kerr and Monroney on May 11, 1959. It was passed by the Senate in September and by the House in June of this year.

Its approval by the President made unnecessary an "insurance" measure inserted by Kerr in an omnibus rivers and harbors bill now being considered by the House. Kerr had included the Norman project in the larger bill, in the event the separate measure were vetoed. But he said it would be dropped from the omnibus bill if the Norman bill were made law.

Other features in the omnibus measure, however, are expected to benefit the Norman project if they are approved. One

would grant additional federal funds for relocating highways at reservoir sites, and another provides for higher payments to property owners whose land is inundated by the water.

SH 9 will have to be relocated with the construction of the reservoir, but plans for a change in routing so far have been stalled by the city's unwillingness to buy right-of-way along proposed routes through Norman.

A group of property owners in the Little River Valley has filed suit contesting the recent creation of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, which will be the agent (See Page 2, Column 3)

DRIVE SAFELY

And Be Alive and Well

After July 4

THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT

Shop and Save
In Norman Tonight

'Not Any Too Soon'

Kirwan Says Norman Will Get Reservoir

"You're going to get your dam and reservoir. And the way water is disappearing in this country, you're not getting it any too soon. By the time you get it, you're going to need it."

With these remarks about the proposed Norman Reservoir, Rep. Michael J. Kirwan of Ohio, "Mr. Democrat" of the U. S. Congress, wound up a talk here Tuesday night that struck at government spending and the waste of America's natural resources.

Kirwan, chairman of the Democratic National Congressional Committee, spoke to nearly 200 Chamber of Commerce members and guests at the annual C of C dinner in the Union Ballroom.

Referring to the authorization by the last Congress of the construction of the reservoir and the appropriation of \$150,000 for advance planning and surveys, Kirwan said that "only on a few occasions has anything like this taken place in Congress — that funds for a project are voted the same year it is authorized. Some projects have been authorized for

60 years, and they'll never get a quarter."

Kirwan, prefacing his remarks, with "this isn't a campaign speech," hit hard at governmental spending during the Eisenhower administration.

"More money has been spent by the federal government in the last 7½ years than by all the presidents from Washington up to now," he said. "And we're going to pay the penalty. . . . We're going to make sacrifices, whether we want to or not."

But he defended government expenditures for conservation of natural resources, and particularly of water. And he aimed a good-natured swipe at the Chamber of Commerce in the process.

"Last year the U. S. Chamber of Commerce met and told Congress we should cut our public works expenditures from over \$1 billion to around \$700 million," he said. "Then three-fourths of the delegates came on to Washington and asked for every dime that we spent."

(See Page 2, Column 1)



SENATOR WELCOMED—Norman and Chamber of Commerce officials were on hand to greet Sen. Robert S. Kerr when he arrived to speak at the Chamber forum today. From left are Harold S. Cooksey, presi-

dent of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association; Kerr; Rex Hawks, Norman, assistant to Kerr, and City Commissioner Norman McNabb. (Transcript Photo)

'Jewel of Recreation'



SENATOR WELCOMED—Norman and Chamber of Commerce officials were on hand to greet Sen. Robert S. Kerr when he arrived to speak at the Chamber forum today. From left are Harold S. Cooksey, presi-

dent of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association; Kerr; Rex Hawks, Norman, assistant to Kerr, and City Commissioner Norman McNabb. (Transcript Photo)

'Jewel of Recreation'

Kerr Predicts Start On Dam Within Year

Sen. Robert S. Kerr said today he believes construction will begin on the Norman Reservoir project on the Little River within a year.

Kerr spoke to a capacity gathering at the monthly forum of the Chamber of Commerce at noon in the Lockett hotel.

In addition to his speech, Kerr was made an honorary citizen of Norman in a presentation by Norman McNabb, mayor pro tem, and was presented an aerial conception of the Norman project by Harold Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association.

Kerr said "the Little River project will be the jewel of recreation in Oklahoma." He added that recreation is now the third largest business in the United States and within 15 years will become the largest.

He also expressed hope the project will be a part of a water supply system linking lakes of southeastern Oklahoma with central Oklahoma.

Kerr said the people have a "mandate from the highest source giving them the responsibility to preserve their natural resources."

If the country's prosperity is to continue rising, he added, "we must have enough available water in both the wet and dry cycles. The wet and dry cycle have been determined to follow precisely throughout history. If predictions are correct the country will have a severe drouth in the late 60's and early 70's.

"When this drouth comes, it will be those areas that were wise enough to insure enough available water that will continue to prosper."

Talk Due ty C of C

ued from Page 1)

construction of the reservoir. Largely as of Kerr's efforts the s passed by Congress

a native Oklahoman, n born near Ada on 1896. He was educated in common schools of Ada, Oklahoma Baptist University of Ok-

l in World War I. After he made an unsuccessful venture in the produce business he directed his interest in the study of law and passed the bar examina-

ame interested with

Free Movie On Saturday

Doors of the Sooner Theatre will open at 9 a.m. Saturday for the first of two free Christmas season shows for children in the Norman area.

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the movie this year will be "Tarzan the Ape Man" plus several cartoons. The Chamber has invited residents to bring their children at the show from 9 to noon while they do their Christmas shopping.

The second free movie will be shown the following Saturday. All stores not already keeping late hours will begin Monday staying open each weekday evening until 8 or 9 p.m. Santa Claus began his rounds of downtown stores Monday and will stay on the streets until Christmas Eve.

City Pushes^{3/1/61}

Water Study

Engineers Asked To Join Forces

The City Commission Tuesday night called for a committee of engineers to study the proposed Norman Reservoir project and come up with recommendations on construction and financing acceptable to the three cities involved in the project and to the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

John Rea Jr., who was employed as a consulting engineer by both Norman and Midwest City, has proposed four or five alternate plans for construction of pipelines, pumping stations and filter plants and for financing the improvements. The conservancy district has hired the C. H. Guernsey Co., and Del City has retained still another engineer.

The Commission voted to ask four independent engineers in Norman to volunteer to meet with the others to consolidate their ideas and recommendations and come up with overall suggestions suitable to all parties involved in construction of the reservoir.

Voters of the three cities will be asked to approve, possibly in May, contracts with the federal government for the repayment of most of the cost of the \$22 million lake on the Little River east of Norman.

Before the contracts are approved the three cities must decide whether they will have separate filtration plants or a joint plant, the size and location of pipelines, methods of financing and other questions.

Mayor Robert O. Ryan asked the other commissioners to submit suggested appointments at a special Commission meeting at 5 p.m. today.

'Water Worth It'

3/1/61

Reservoir Not Free, Cooksey Emphasizes

The Norman Reservoir on the Little River will not be a free lake, the president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association warned the Civic Improvement Council Monday night.

But he pointed also to the city's dwindling ground-water supplies and said the encroachment of oil and gas wells threatens to contaminate the city's water wells because of the practice of pumping salt water back into the ground.

"Water is worth whatever it costs," added Harold S. Cooksey, who also is secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

Cooksey reviewed the location, size and purpose of the reservoir authorized by Congress at a site east of Norman. He pointed out that Norman is more fortunate than the other communities in-

involved in the project, Midwest City and Del City, because it will have only about 10 miles of pipeline to install, compared to about 18 miles for the other cities.

Then he delved, in general terms, into the cost of financing the \$22 million project.

The federal government, he said, will pay \$3 million for flood control and nearly \$3 million for recreation benefit. The remaining \$16 million will have to be repaid by the project cities over a 50-year period.

Pointing out that Tinker Air Force Base had been dropped from the project, Cooksey said this will increase the cost slightly to each project city but provide each with a proportionate share of extra water.

The three cities must decide soon, Cooksey said, on the meth-

(See Page 3, Column 3)

Reservoir Not Free, Cooksey Points Out

3/1/61

(Continued from Page 1)

od of financing the construction, and he expressed hope Norman will be ready for an election in May to approve the repayment contracts with the federal government. If the contracts are approved then, he added, "we could have dirt moving this fall."

But the cities must first decide several issues — whether each will build its own filter plant or cooperate in a joint plant at the

lake, and how much of the construction will be done by bond issue. He suggested the bond route for pipelines, pumping station and filter plant (or plants) but pointed also to the 50-year financing at a 2.63-per-cent interest rate available from the government.

The cost of water to the city will be slightly higher than at present, he said, but stressed again the "urgent need for water at any price."

Cooksey also brought in the possibility of the lake serving as a terminal point for Project HOW, a proposed navigation and water-supply canal from southeastern to central Oklahoma. He praised the foresight of Sen. Robert S. Kerr in planning to harness the water and to provide a transportation link with the Arkansas River system through the canal.

In response to questions from the council members, Cooksey said District Judge Elvin J. Brown will call an election to choose directors of the conservancy district before the repayment contracts are brought up for a vote. He also said Norman will be entitled to 46 per cent of the lake's water and pointed out that the bill authorizing the reservoir is the first ever passed to provide the project cities permanent rights to the water. In previous federal projects, the government controlled the water supply even after the costs were repaid.

Dam Foes Denied Rehearing

March 1, 1961

The Oklahoma Supreme Court has denied a petition for a rehearing by a group contesting the formation of the Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, it was announced today.

John M. (Jack) Luttrell, who represented the district in the suit, said he was notified of the court's decision this morning.

The suit was filed in District Court here in the name of Howard Oliphant, a property owner

in the area on the Little River that will be covered by the proposed Norman Reservoir. District Judge Elvin J. Brown upheld the constitutionality of the district, and Oliphant, representing himself and others, appealed the case to the high court.

The high court sustained Brown's ruling several weeks ago, but Oliphant's attorneys then petitioned for a rehearing. The petition was denied Tuesday afternoon.

The conservancy district is the agency that will deal with the federal government in construction of the \$22 million reservoir east of Norman. It is composed of the cities of Norman, Midwest City and Del City, whose residents are expected to vote in May on contracts covering repayment to the government of most of the costs of the reservoir.

1-12-61

Construction on Norman Reservoir Expected To Start in Mid-August

By JACK BAGBY

Construction of the Norman Reservoir on the Little River east of the city "should start by the middle of August," it was announced here today.

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, made the prediction upon his return from Washington, D. C., where he conferred with various officials about the \$19 million project.

Cooksey said he was told by Don McBride, administrative assistant to Sen. Robert S. Kerr

that the government plans to utilize a new policy on construction of reservoirs.

"If we get an appropriation of any size this session, they will let the full contract immediately," Cooksey said, "and the contractor then will be paid the rest of his money through future appropriations."

"They should be moving dirt out there by the middle of August."

Cooksey and Robert L. Bailey, attorney for the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District,

went to Washington last week to confer with officials of the Department of Justice and Department of the Interior on a suit the district had filed for the adjudication of water rights on the Little River.

Cooksey announced today that the suit will be withdrawn at the request of the two governmental agencies. In return, he said, the government agreed that if the district runs into added expense in later years and has to acquire water rights by condemnation,

the extra costs can be spread over a long period of time.

No trouble over water rights is anticipated, however, Cooksey said. The secretary of the Interior in 1953 withdrew all of the water rights on the Little River to hold them for the project cities — Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

Cooksey also said that Oklahoma City's annexation this week of land bordering Hog Creek, which with the Little River will feed the reservoir, will have no effect on the water rights, since

the land was acquired after the government's withdrawal of the rights.

The new land annexed by Oklahoma City is the site of a proposed terminal reservoir on Elm Creek for water brought by pipeline from the Atoka Reservoir in the southeast part of the state.

Elm Creek also feeds into the Little River, but Cooksey said Oklahoma City will be required by law to let Elm Creek water through and is subject to injunction by the conservancy district

if it attempts to impound it.

The Norman Reservoir was authorized by Congress last spring, and a \$150,000 appropriation for planning and survey work was approved. An appropriations bill for the actual construction is expected to be introduced in the current session, and Cooksey said that "if we get only a half million dollars we can go ahead."

Estimated cost of the dam and reservoir itself is \$19,042,000, all of which would be supplied initial-

ly by the federal government. The three cities, through the conservancy district, would repay some \$13 million of this amount over a 50-year period.

The cities also will have to finance a treatment plant or plants, estimated at about \$3 million more. Norman and Midwest City have hired a consulting engineer, John E. Rea, who is currently working with the Bureau of Reclamation in the design and location of pipelines and treat-

ment plants and in the preparation of repayment contracts.

The contracts will have to be approved by the voters of the project cities, probably sometime this spring.

When completed, the reservoir is expected to cover some 7,400 acres at normal level, an area larger than that of Lake Murray. The dam will be located immediately south of Little Axe, about 12 miles east of Norman, and one arm of the lake will extend west to within about six miles of Norman.

IT'S YOUR CITY
Help Make Norman a Better
Place to Live

THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT

1889-1961
Norman's Community Paper
For Over 70 Years

Lake Funds In Request

4/6/53

President Kennedy has asked Congress for an additional appropriation for the Arkansas River development program and it includes \$900,000 for the start of construction on the Norman Reservoir project, Sen. Robert S. Kerr announced today.

The total sum asked is \$4,675,000, including both Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation projects.

Kerr said the government has spent \$167 million to date on Arkansas River projects, including tributaries, and another \$1 billion will be needed to complete them.

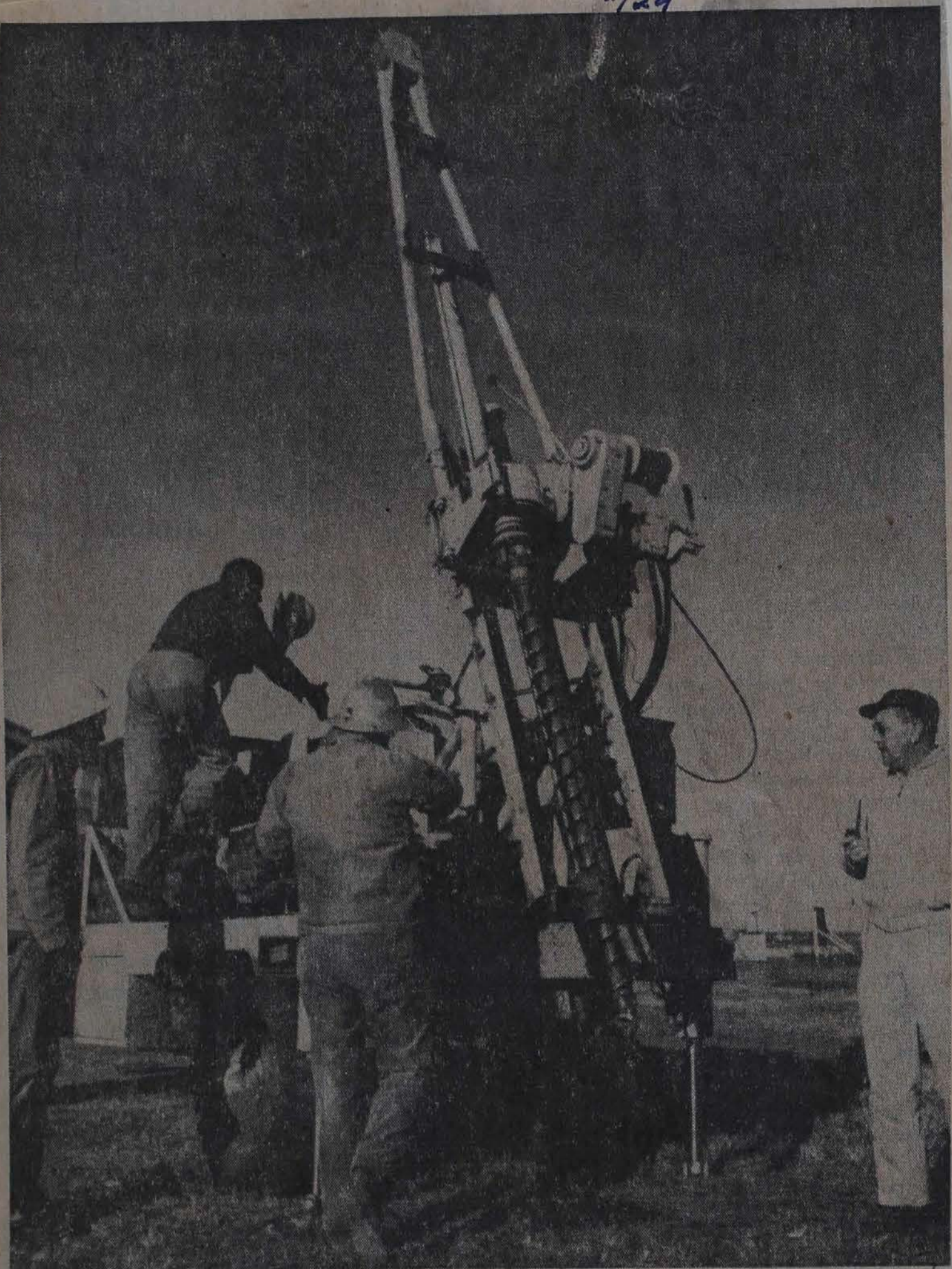
The President's latest requests

Lake Funds In Request

(Continued from Page 1)

include \$1.8 million for the Foss and Cobb Creek reservoirs on the Washita River watershed and \$400,000 for another Soil Conservation Service watershed project. Oklahoma now has 21 soil conservation projects for which \$11,231,000 is included in the 1962 budget.

Kerr noted that the money for these projects is still to be appropriated by Congress, but he expressed the belief that if "Oklahoma folks will get in there and pitch for it" the state will get it.



FINISHING UP—A Bureau of Reclamation crew today ends its testing of soil in the Midwest City area as it seeks a pipeline route to that city from the proposed Norman Reservoir. Similar tests already have been made for a Norman pipeline alignment. Richard H. Pearce (right) is the engineer in charge of the crew. Others are Robert Cecil and Cat Harmon, both of Norman, and Davie Branstetter.

Dam Planning Progresses

Bureau of Reclamation crews today were winding up field work in connection with the preparation of a definite plan report on the proposed Norman Reservoir.

M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the bureau, said "We've been doing a lot of surveying, but we're pretty well finished with that phase of the work."

A portable drilling rig, used to obtain soundings of the strata below ground level, was expected to complete its work today in the Midwest City area. Crews have been surveying and testing for pipeline alignments from the reservoir site on the Little River to Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

"We're getting our new price estimates in order and ironing out details in the plans," Barclay added. "I'd say we're getting pretty well along with the work."

Congress this year appropriated \$150,000 for plans and surveys for the \$19 million project, and contracts are expected to be ready sometime in the spring for signing by the three member cities of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

Norman and Midwest City, meanwhile, are conducting their own engineering studies leading to the use of water from the reservoir.

Two pending court suits must be settled before the contracts

can be signed. One contesting the formation of the conservancy district is awaiting a decision by the state Supreme Court. The other, now in federal District Court in Oklahoma City, would adjudicate the water rights of all users of the Little River water.

A bill providing for federal appropriation of some \$19 million is expected to be introduced in Congress after the next session opens in January. Of this amount, the project cities will have to repay around \$13 million over a 50-year period. The cities also will have to finance construction of a water-treatment plant or plants at an estimated cost of about \$3.2 million more.

5-12-61

Flow of Information Will Back Reservoir

Information about the Norman Reservoir will be flowing through every channel to city residents next week as members of the Mayor's Committee of 140 shift into high gear.

Newspaper stories and advertising, direct mailing, a speakers' bureau and radio will be the principal vehicles.

Fact sheets will be distributed to all civic clubs, and extra copies will be available at the Chamber of Commerce, city clerk's office and at the office of County Attorney Robert L. (Buddy) Pendarvis.

In addition to mailing out fact sheets next Thursday to all residents, Pendarvis' direct-mail subcommittee will set up a downtown information booth Saturday, May 20, to distribute literature on the project.

Other members of Pendarvis' group are Charles Hooper, Joe Burke, Dorwin K. Wilcox, George Munde, John Eriksen, Myron See-

ley, Hugh (Pete) Mabe, William Hardwick, Douglas Thomas, Joseph Pray and Gloria Holtzschue.

Most committees and subcommittees met Thursday to plan their programs and draw up budget requests for consideration of the budget committee at its meeting at 4 p.m. today.

John H. (Jack) Patten is overall publicity chairman. Other groups and their members are:

Newspaper: Mrs. Grace Gordon, chairman; Fred E. Tarman, Harold Belknap, Clark Hetherington, Mrs. W. H. Atkins, Bruce Drake, Mrs. Carl Oldroyd, Lynn Bullard, Frank Foreman, Don Symcox, Margaret Melton, Cecil Woods, A. C. Mardt, Dale Heckendorn and Jack Bagby.

Radio: Mrs. Maurice Merrill, chairman; William S. Morgan, Jack Dean, Jack Black, W. L. (Bud) Saunders and Rufus Hall.

The finance and budget committee, headed by Raymond Symcox, (See Page 3, Column 1)

5-12-61

Information On Reservoir Set To Flow

(Continued From Page 1)

is composed of Phil C. Kidd, Phil C. Kidd Jr., John Morrison, V. C. Bratton, R. E. Barbour, Wayne Wallace, E. G. Johnson, J. L. Farmer, Ray Groves, Dr. Horace Brown, T. R. Benedum, Hal Muldrow and W. H. Patten.

The speakers' bureau includes Bill Sneed, chairman; Mrs. William S. Morgan, Mrs. A. J. Croft, Person Woodall, Bob Lester, Jay Poynor, Jack Douglas, James Adair and Robert L. Bailey.

The technical information, committee, headed by Walter Kraft, includes Harold S. Cooksey, D. H. Grisso, Sam Whitlock, John M. (Jack) Luttrell, R. E. (Buck) Clement, Bennie Schultz, C. M. Slipevich, M. G. Barclay, Norman Flaigg, Dr. Carl Branson, George Reid, Joseph Assenzo, Joe Keeley, Francis L. Nelson, Robert N. Thompson, John Kuhlman, Mayor Earl Sneed, City Commissioners John W. Elliott, Robert C. Chastain, Norman McNabb, Dr. John G. Hemphill, Will H. Mattoon and Dr. Carl D. Riggs, former Commissioners James F. Long, Dr. Robert O. Ryan, Mrs. June Benson, Fred Reynolds and James Jansing and all other city officials connected with the project.

WASH
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support

Group Urges Approval Of Reservoir Pacts

5/9/61

Directors of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District Monday night called upon three cities to approve contracts for construction of the Norman Reservoir.

The board examined and approved a proposed contract between the district and the federal government and contracts between the district and Norman, Midwest City and Del City. The contracts call for the repayment by the district to the federal gov-

ernment of \$11,562,000 over a 50-year period and payments from the cities to the district totaling the same amount over the same period.

Norman's obligation is \$4,497,000.

After approving the contracts, the board passed a resolution urging each of the three cities to call an election as soon as possible for the approval of their individual contracts. (The Norman City Commission is expected tonight to set the vote here for May 23, and Midwest City and Del City tentatively have scheduled their elections for June 20.)

The board also studied a proposed constitution and set of by-laws, but Harold S. Cooksey, secretary, said several minor revisions are to be made before they are adopted.

The district board is composed of directors from the three project cities involved in construction of the reservoir.

Ballot Notes

5-19-61

WHAT: Norman Reservoir Project election.

WHEN: Tuesday.

WHERE: All 19 Norman precincts.

VOTING HOURS: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RIDES: Jaycees will provide rides to polls. Phone JE 4-6768 or JE 4-9920.

5/9/61 Council Expected To Set Date for Reservoir Vote

By JACK BAGBY

A May 23 vote on approval of the city's share of the cost of the Norman Reservoir probably will be scheduled tonight by the City Commission as one of its first official acts.

The Commission, with five of the seven members beginning their first terms, will be sworn in shortly after 8 p.m. by Judge Hez J. Bussey of the Court of Criminal Appeals. The new commissioners are Mayor Earl Sneed, Robert C. Chastain, John W. Elliott, William H. Mattoon and Dr. Carl C. Riggs. Norman McNabb and Dr. John G. Hemphill were re-elected.

The May 23 election, to approve a contract between the city and the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, probably will be in the form of two ballots, City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell said. One will be voted upon by all registered voters and the other only by taxpaying property owners.

The question submitted to all voters would authorize the city to enter into a contract with the conservancy district for the repayment, over a 50-year period, of \$4,497,000, plus interest, Norman's share of the cost of the reservoir. It would authorize the payments of the an-

nual installments from water sales or other sources of revenue.

The question upon which only taxpayers may vote would authorize the city, if the contract is approved, to levy a general ad valorem tax for the purpose of paying the principal and part of the interest due each year for the first 25 years of the contract. The total principal to be paid during this period comes to about \$875,000.

Sam Whitlock, attorney for the conservancy district, said that as a practical matter, approval of the two questions would give the city a choice of making
(See Page 3, Column 5)

Reservoir Vote Due Study

(Continued From Page 1)

any or all of the payments during the first 25 years from tax revenue, water revenue, any other source of funds or from a combination of all of them. One limitation, however, would be imposed: the city could not levy a tax in any one year to raise more than the amount of that year's payment.

(The payments, expected to start about 1965, will range from around \$80,000 the first year to about \$182,000 in the 25th year. The contract is then renewable for another 25 years, upon another vote of the people.)

Identical contracts — except for the amount of repayment involved — are to be voted upon in Midwest City and Del City, probably on June 20. The total annual payments of the

three cities equal the annual payment the conservancy district must make to the federal government, plus whatever may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the reservoir by the district.

Both questions must be approved in each of the three cities before the district can sign its contract with the government and construction can begin on the reservoir. The early vote has been urged by the Bureau of Reclamation and others because of hearings scheduled in Congress the first two weeks of June on a \$900,000 appropriation to begin work on the \$18 million lake.

A contract for construction of the entire dam and reservoir will be let, Bureau officials said, if the initial appropriation is approved. But its approval is considered to be as-

sured only if at least one of the project cities has authorized the repayment contract.

At its meeting tonight, the Commission plans to discuss how best to present to all Norman voters an explanation of the issues they will be asked to decide May 23.

Other business on the agenda includes election of a mayor pro tem, the opening of bids on swimming pool equipment and several street-improvement matters. One of these is a decision on calling for bids on the resurfacing of Gray Street between University Boulevard and Pickard Avenue.

Bids were submitted once before, but all were above the engineer's estimate, and the specifications were changed.

Several other more routine items are on the agenda of the meeting.

Financial Killing? No, Say Project Backers

(Continued From Page 1)

tle Axe on the east side of the Hog Creek arm of the reservoir, said the lake will cover about one-half of it.

"I bought the land with the idea that my two young sons could enjoy its recreational advantages when they are teenagers if the reservoir were built," he said. "I hope to put a cabin up there later on.

"I didn't buy the land to capitalize on it and I don't intend to. Besides, it would be pretty hard to make a million dollars off 80 acres."

McNabb, whose tracts lies two miles south of SH 9 and Capshaw School, said:

"I went in with 14 others to obtain 40 acres out there, and we plan to build our homes there — not just summer cottages; we plan nice homes; I anticipate living out there. The man I bought it from (Palmer Sublett) would have sold it to someone else; that land has been available for the last 10 years, and there has certainly never been any secret about where the lake would be located, if it were built.

"I might put a little bait house out there, too, if it looks like the right location. Sporting equipment is my livelihood; if I didn't do something to try to expand and improve my business, I'd be a poor businessman. I certainly didn't get into this business years ago on the chance that the lake might be built some day. But even if no one else were in with me on this deal (the land purchase) it would be a good idea for me to have it.

"And if this lake is built, you just watch how many boat and fishing equipment dealers there will be in town!"

Of the five who own land in the reservoir area, Sneed and Elliott were elected to the City

McNabb first joined the Commission in 1959. Dr. Ryan began the first of his three terms in 1955 and Reynolds also began the first of three terms in 1955.

Other members of the new commission, asked whether they own land in the reservoir area, replied like this:

WILLIAM H. MATTOON — "Not an acre."

DR. CARL D. RIGGS — "The only land I own is at 2706 Walnut Road and that's pretty heavily mortgaged."

ROBERT C. CHASTAIN — "I own nothing outside the city limits."

DR. JOHN G. HEMPHILL (re-elected) — "No land outside Norman."

Other past commissioners answered this way:

JAMES JANSING — "None whatsoever; the closest land to the reservoir which I own is at 608 Morningside Drive."

JAMES F. LONG — "Not a nickel's worth."

MRS. JUNE BENSON — "The only land we own in Cleveland County is the land on which our house is built."

Norman members of the conservancy district board answered like this:

D. H. GRISSO — "The only real estate I own in Cleveland County is where my house stands; I'd sign a sworn statement to that effect."

HAROLD S. COOKSEY — "Not an inch; I have no business that would be affected by the reservoir in any way."

WALTER KRAFT — "Nothing whatever."

RAYMOND SYMCOX — "None whatever."

The board members also said they were certain that none of the members from the other two project cities have any holdings in the reservoir area.

They are Oscar Rose, Henry Croak, Paul Hudiburg and John Conrad, Midwest City, and Joe Tilly, Del City.

Norman Voters To Decide On Lake Project May 23

Pieces Falling in Place For Reservoir Project

Like a jumbled mass of letters that suddenly flow together on a movie screen to form the title of the picture, the uncertain aspects of the Norman Reservoir project are beginning to crystallize and click into place.

As a result, most of the questions Norman residents are asking about the proposal are expected to be answered within a few days. And, leaders of the project say, these answers will include a close estimate in reply to the most frequently heard question: "What will it cost me?"

Three major pieces of the puzzle fell into place Tuesday. The governor received, to sign into law, a bill amending the statutes governing master conservancy districts. The City Commission called an election for May 23, when residents will vote on approval of a 50-year contract for the repayment of Norman's share of the cost of

the reservoir. And the two questions to be submitted at the election were approved by city, conservancy district and government officials.

The conservancy district bill contains a great deal about the formation of master conservancy districts that does not apply to districts already in operation. The Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, comprising Norman, Midwest City and Del City, was formed more than a year ago, and its organization was upheld in a recent decision by the Supreme Court.

But certain other provisions of the new law clarify the representation on the board of directors of each member of the district and the method of electing directors; allow for the annexation of new areas to the district, upon their petition, and give member cities cer-

tain leeway in meeting their repayment obligations.

What the main provisions mean in relation to the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District is this:

Representation on the board is based on the amount of water storage in the reservoir to which each city is entitled, with a maximum of three directors from each city. Thus Norman, with 43.8 per cent of the water, will have three representatives; Midwest City, with 40.4 per cent, will have three, and Del City, with 15.8 per cent, will have one.

Board members will be chosen by the governing bodies of each of the three cities and certified by the District Court judge. They will serve staggered, four-year terms, and each will receive \$10 for each meeting attended, with a maximum of \$20 in any one month.

(See Page 3, Column 3)

Pieces Falling in Place on Reservoir Project

(Continued From Page 1)

Under certain conditions, other cities (Moore, for example) may join the district and participate in water from the reservoir. But the residents of the city must first vote to petition for annexation, and the voters of each of the cities already in the district must approve admission of the new member. The costs of the reservoir facilities and of the water would then be reallocated among four cities.

The provisions in the bill for raising funds for a city's share of the cost of construction, operation and maintenance of

the reservoir are intended primarily as a "backstop" to the constitutional provisions under which the three cities in the Norman project will operate.

The questions upon which Norman residents will vote May 23 (and Midwest City and Del City probably in June) are based on sections of the state constitution which allow cities and towns to finance jointly and with other agencies of government the construction of water facilities.

The two questions to be submitted to voters will provide for the financing of Norman's share of the cost from water revenue, backed up by an ad valorem levy of from one to two

mills a year in any year in which the water revenue is insufficient to meet the annual payment.

All qualified voters will be eligible to vote on the question of approving the repayment contract and pledging water revenue, while only taxpaying property owners may vote on authorizing the tax assessment.

Both issues must be approved in order for either to take effect, and the same issues must pass in Midwest City and Del City before the Norman contract (or the contract of the district with the federal government) is valid.

The annual repayment schedule for each of the three cities

for the actual cost of the reservoir previously had been figured by the Bureau of Reclamation; (Norman's share is \$4,847,850, including a 5 per cent contingency construction fund and \$120,000 interest during construction of the dam. The first payment, due probably in 1965 or '66, is \$78,800.)

To this cost has been added the estimated annual cost of maintenance and operation (most of it in the cost of power for pumping) and of treating the water. By computing these figures in relation to the anticipated water use (3.5 million gallons a day by Norman in 1966), the bureau has estimated the cost to the city per

thousand gallons of water.

Within the next week, city and conservancy district officials are expected to come up with a close estimate of how much — if any — water bills may be increased to enable the city to utilize the water from the reservoir.

Plans for distributing this information and other data about the reservoir and its costs to all residents of Norman will be discussed at a meeting Thursday morning. Invited are more than 130 representatives of the city, county, University, Central State Hospital, major businesses and industries, Ministerial Alliance, the Bureau of Reclamation and others.

5-23-64 Group Given

Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks to the "Mayor's Committee of 140" for its work on distributing information about the Norman Reservoir project was given Monday night by the Civic Improvement Council.

The group also heard Mrs. S. W. Reaves, Park Board chairman, discuss the summer swimming program and handled a couple of other routine items in its brief meeting.

Robert L. (Buddy) Pendarvis, who presided in the absence of Chairman John Morrison and Vice Chairman John H. (Jack) Patten, reviewed the work that had led to today's vote on Norman's participation in the reservoir. The committee raised cash or pledges amounting to about \$1,800, he said, and spent most of it in the distribution of information to voters.

He urged all council members
(See Page 3, Column 3)

'Committee of 140' Gets Vote of Thanks

(Continued from Page 1)

to contact their friends and work to get out the vote today.

After his report the council gave a rising vote of thanks to all who had participated in the campaign.

Mrs. Reaves, saying the Park Board's aim is "to teach every child in Norman how to swim," reported the biggest problem this summer will be transportation for children to the new municipal pool in the south part of the former Navy base.

The Norman City Lines has the transportation franchise in Norman, she added, and any plan for providing additional transportation to the pool would have to

be worked out with the company. She suggested the possibility of financial assistance from some civic clubs.

Mrs. E. L. Lucas, chairman of the city beautification committee, reported the completion of a clean up, paint-up, fix-up drive in April but added the challenge that "we can do more in the future than we have done in the past."

The council confirmed the reappointment of Mrs. Harry Gibbs and Mrs. Carl Oldroyd as representatives from the League of Women Voters to the CIC.

No reports were received from the governmental relations, annexation, library, streets and sewers, safety or youth committees.

5-22-61

Got One Minute To Look Ahead?

Q. What will we vote on May 23?

A. We will vote to authorize the city to enter into a contract for the construction and financing of a dam and reservoir on the Little River, its pipelines and pumping plants.

Q. Is there a need?

A. Yes. Engineering studies by the Bureau of Reclamation, Guernsey Engineering Co., Rea Engineering Co. and others show the supply of well water is being depleted. With the expected growth of Norman in the future, wells cannot adequately supply the needs, surveys show.

Q. What is the total project cost?

A. About \$18 million.

Q. Who pays the total cost?

A. The federal government puts up the entire amount; then Norman, Midwest City and Del City repay their share (approximately \$11.5 million) over a 50-year period. The remaining \$6.5 million cost will be borne by the government.

Q. How will the cost be allocated to cities?

A. Allocation of cost is based on the allocation of water in the reservoir, as follows:

COST		WATER ALLOCATION
Norman	\$4,847,850	43.8 per cent
Midwest City	\$5,231,100	40.4 per cent
Del City	\$2,408,700	15.8 per cent

(These figures include interest during construction and a 5 per cent contingency for unforeseen increases in costs. Midwest City's cost is higher than Norman's because of a longer pipeline.)

Q. What does the cost include?

A. The acquisition of land and construction of the dam, reservoir, pipelines and pump stations.

Q. Does this include the filtration plant?

A. No. Each of the cities will be responsible later for building a filtration plant or for its proportionate share of a central plant.

Q. What will be Norman's cost for filtration facilities?

A. The estimate is \$1.6 million.

Q. How will Norman finance its share of the reservoir cost?

A. On the basis of the present rate of growth and increase in water usage, studies indicate water revenue will be adequate under the present water rates to meet Norman's annual payments. Should revenue prove inadequate in any one year, a tax could be levied up to about 18 per cent of that year's costs. This levy would be from 1 to 2 mills.

Q. How will Norman finance the cost of a filtration plant?

A. Whether Norman builds its own plant or participates in a central plant, costs probably will be met by general obligation bonds or by revenue bonds through a trust agreement.

Q. What is the meaning of the May 23 ballots?

A. Ballot 1 is to authorize the making of a contract and the pledge of water revenue to meet the annual payments. (All registered voters of the city may vote on this issue.) Ballot 2 is to authorize a tax levy to supplement the water revenue, if necessary. The total levy during the first 25 years of the repayment cannot exceed \$876,645, or about 18 per cent of the total obligation. (All registered, taxpaying voters of the city may vote on this issue.)

Q. Do both issues require approval?

A. Yes. Both must pass if the city's contract is to be valid. And voters of Midwest City and Del City must approve similar questions to validate the conservancy district's contract with the federal government.

Q. What recreational advantages will be provided?

A. Fishing, boating, camping, water skiing and hunting in designated areas. All basic recreational facilities will be provided by the federal government.

Q. Will the cities own the dam, reservoir, pipelines and pump stations?

A. After paying their share of the construction cost, the cities will own permanent right to the use of the reservoir and all of its facilities for municipal water purposes.

Drive Planned To Push Dam

Fact Sheets Due At Thursday Meet

An all-out campaign to distribute information to voters on Norman's May 23 election to approve participation in the Norman Reservoir project will open with a 7 a.m. breakfast Thursday at the Lockett Hotel.

The campaign is expected to climax at a public forum, also at the Lockett, on the evening of May 18.

130 Invited

Mayor Earl Sneed announced today that he has sent personal invitations to more than 130 persons to attend the breakfast Thursday. Included will be representatives from:

The Civic Improvement Council, immediate past and present City Commissions, men's and women's civic and service clubs, the League of Women Voters, University, Central State Hospital, utility companies, all major businesses and industries, the county government, county legislators, Chamber of Commerce, Parent-Teacher Associations, Ministerial Alliance, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, all city boards, the Bureau of Reclamation, press and radio.

Officials on Hand

Information sheets containing answers to the most commonly asked questions about the reservoir project will be distributed at the meeting, and each person will be asked to distribute the information in his respective organization or sphere of influence in the community.

Officials of the city, Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and other agencies will be on hand to answer questions and give more detailed explanations.

Plans also are expected to be discussed for other means of distributing the information, possibly through direct mailing, a

(See Page 3, Column 2)

Drive Planned To Inform Voters

(Continued From Page 1)

speakers' bureau and other methods.

The forum on May 18, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, will feature a panel of three officials who probably are more familiar with the project than anyone else. They are M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation; Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and secretary of the conservancy district, and City Manager Joe Parris.

The public will be urged to attend the meeting, most of which will be devoted to the answering of questions about the project.

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About It?

Q: These are some of the many questions circulated about the proposed Norman Reservoir project.

Q: What are the arguments against the project? All right, what about some of the 'cons'?

A: Probably the largest and most valid "con", supporters agree, is the fact that the reservoir water treatment, because of the high quality of the present supply, is pumped into city mains with little or no treatment. Water from the lake will require extensive filtration, somewhat harder than the present supply, although Reclamation terms this a "temporary measure" to be removed cheaply by treatment.

Q: Some of the reservoir have contended that ample water is available, and the lake is unnecessary. But some contend that the element of ground water can be removed. They point to evidence they say shows the supply is being depleted and it will hold out can be determined at this time. Supporters of the project go on to say that it is safer than sorry.

Much Harder?

Q: How hard will the lake water be than the well water? A: The present well water ranges from 0 to 260 ppm in hardness. The Bureau of Reclamation says the reservoir will have about 160 ppm. George Reid, Bureau of Water Resources Research at Norman, says he can have up to about 100 ppm total hardness blended with ground water in the city. Reid says removing hardness will be unnecessary, Reid says it will have to be treated.

How Project HOW?

Q: How long will it take to build the reservoir? A: The project will be completed in 1966.

'Committee of 140' Starts Drive for Lake Project

(Continued From Page 1)

committees by John H. (Jack) Patten and Robert L. (Buddy) Pendarvis, Civic Improvement Council members given the task of disseminating information to the public.

Patten asked all committees to meet and draw up programs and budget requests before 4 p.m. Friday. At that time the finance and budget committee, with Raymond Symcox as chairman, will convene to formulate a budget for the campaign.

Other Chairmen Named

Other committees and their chairmen are: Speakers' bureau, Bill Sneed; technical information, Walter Kraft; radio publicity, Mrs. Maurice Merrill; newspaper publicity, Mrs. Grace Grodon, and direct mailing, Pendarvis.

"Norman must grow; it cannot help but grow," Mayor Earl Sneed said in reviewing the needs for the lake and the work that has been done on the project in the last decade. "Those who say 'Let's keep Norman a small, college town' are just not being realistic; it's already out of our hands."

Sneed and others emphasized that the proposals upon which Norman, Midwest City and Del City residents will vote do not include filtration facilities. Sneed pointed to the number of engineers in all three cities who are studying the questions of the construction, operation and financing of a central filter plant or of separate plants for the three cities.

"Cold, Hard Look"

"We're going to take a long, cold, hard look at this question before a decision is made," he said.

Chamber of Commerce Manager John F. Malone, who recently returned from Washington, said he had been advised by members of the congressional delegation, the chairman of the House appropriations committee and the assistant commissioner of reclamation that "if we do not come up with some concrete evidence on the local level of our intention are scheduled during the project" a \$900,000 appropriation for starting construction probably would be diverted to some other reservoir.

Hearings in both the House and Senate on the proposed appropriation are scheduled during the first two weeks of June.

City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell then took over to explain the ballot propositions.

Proposition No. 1

Proposition No. 1, on a pink ballot, will go to all registered, qualified voters, he said. It approves the payment by the city to the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District of Norman's total obligation, \$4,847,850, over a 50-year period.

This figure includes the city's total payment on the principal (\$4,497,000), \$120,000 in interest during construction of the dam and a 5 per cent contingency for an unexpected rise in costs.

If the cost should come to more than 5 per cent above the estimate the city would have to approve a new contract.

Revenue Pledged

Proposition No. 1 also pledges the city's water revenue to the retirement of the debt.

Residents who have paid taxes in the last 12 months on real or personal property will receive a second ballot, Proposition No. 2, on green paper.

"Cities have always had the power, under the state constitution, to levy an annual tax to pay for improvements — streets, water or what-have-you," Luttrell said. "This tax has been voted many times."

But he went on to say that in this case, it is intended only as a "backstop" to Proposition 1, the pledging of water revenue, and was required by the government as an underwriting of part of the loan.

He pointed out, also, that the limit that could be raised by the levy, over a 25-year period, is \$876,645, and that no more than is required to meet the next year's obligation can be raised in any one year. If payment is made from water revenue instead of

from taxes (as is anticipated), that payment is credited to retirement of the tax debt.

Mill Levy Discussed

"The most that taxpayers could be expected to put out the first year is \$16,000 and with the city's present \$16 million valuation, that amount could be raised right now with a one-mill levy," he added. "By the time the first payment is due, in 1965 or 1966, the valuation should be \$20 to \$22 million, and it would require even less than one mill. I can't see any possibility of the levy being more than one mill, at least during the first few years of the project."

Annual payments increase slightly each year, but valuation and water usage is expected to increase at least proportionately, if not faster.

Luttrell and others emphasized again, later in the discussion, that the mill levy will not be needed in any year unless the sale of water by the city fails to bring in enough revenue to meet the annual obligation.

Questions Raised

After these explanations and the appointing of committees came the questions, which were referred to the experts best versed in the various fields. Here are some of the questions and answers:

Q: "Will there be an increase in water rates?"

A. (Parris) "Until yesterday I was convinced there would have to be a slight increase. Since then I have talked with (engineer) John Rea; we have gone over his figures, and he tells me he thinks we will not have to have an increase. There is even a possibility that as more water is available and is used that we could readjust the present rates downward."

Q: "What is the situation with the University and Central State Hospital? Could Norman sell them water?"

A. "Yes. Once Norman receives the water, it's ours to do with as we see fit; we can sell it to anybody."

Moving Costs Discussed

Q: "Are land acquisition costs included in the costs of the reservoir?"

A. (Sneed) "Yes. The Bureau of Reclamation has long been engaged in this business all over the Southwest. It knows the value of surface and mineral rights very closely and in only one instance has estimated too low. Appraisers are brought in to appraise the land, and the final price is arrived at by negotiation with the property owner. The government drives a hard bargain but a fair one. It allows such things as moving costs and other benefits."

Q: "Must a property owner pay tax on the amount he receives for his land?"

A. "Not if it is reinvested within one year in the same kind of land. The government has provided in all cases of land purchased under condemnation or threat of condemnation that the seller does not have to pay a capital-gains tax if the money is reinvested in one year."

Estimate Believed Close

Q: "Is the estimated cost expected to be close, or could the city be required to pay a lot more than is estimated?"

A. (M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation) "Considerable contingencies already are included, and we believe the estimates are sound. If the cost should be more than 5 per cent above the estimate, the question would have to be referred back to electorate. This is not an open-end contract. On the other hand, any savings below the estimate (and at the Foss Creek project there were considerable savings) will go back to the conservancy district and the cities."

Q: "When will actual construction start?"

Surplus Water?

A. (Barclay) "The money will be available in July or August, and we will go ahead with the final construction design. By about April we should advertise for bids, and construction would start between April and June of next year. In the meantime we would be acquiring land in the damsite construction area, probably around the first of the calendar year."

Q: "Can surplus water be sold,

and how would that help Norman?"

A. "The contract (with the district) provides that any city can declare the water it does not need is surplus and turn it back to the district for sale. The city then gets credit from the district for any of the water sold."

Q: "What constitutes a tax-paying voter?"

A. "He must own real or personal property and have paid taxes on it within the last 12 months. In the case of most FHA loans, where the loan company pays the taxes, that's okay. If property is held in the name of both the husband and wife, both are entitled to vote. Many taxpayers will be known personally to precinct officials, but if they are not and will bring along a tax receipt, that is the best proof. Otherwise they can sign affidavits at the polls that they, are taxpayers."

No Tax May Be Needed

Q: "Is it entirely probable that no tax will be levied at all, if we use and sell enough water?"

A. (Sneed) "That is correct, but we think it is very important that voters are told that a tax could be levied if water revenue proves insufficient."

Q: "When will the first payment be due?"

A. "One year after Oct. 1 of the year in which the project is completed and water is delivered. If notice of completion is not given until after Oct. 1, the first payment will not be due until Oct. 1 of the second year following. This means the first payment probably will be due in 1966."

Q: "How much will be our obligation for the cost of a filtration plant?"

A. "Not only a filtration plant, but additional facilities to distribute water inside the city will be needed. A lot of engineering work is yet to be done, but a rough estimate is \$1,650,000. Based on an expected valuation of \$20 to \$22 million, this probably would require about a 5- to 6-mill levy."

Renewal Questioned

"But this would not be an additional tax over what is being paid at present because much of our present bonded indebtedness will be retired by then."

Q: "Why is this contract for 25 years, renewable for another 25, when the total repayment schedule covers 50 years?"

A. "We are not really sure under the constitution whether there is any limit. None is specified by the particular section under which the contract is drawn, but other parts of the constitution put a 25-year limit on debts. By making the contract renewable for another 25 years, we know it is legal, but whether it will require another vote of the people at that time will depend on what the laws are then."

Q: "Is there any organized opposition to the reservoir?"

Rumors Floating

A. "There are many rumors floating around — such as the one that the government is already buying land and is paying a flat \$10 an acre for mineral rights and so on. They are all pure hogwash. But we know of no organized opposition."

Q: "Do both questions have to pass?"

A. "Both questions must pass for either to be effective, and the election must carry in all three cities for the contract of any of the cities to be valid."

Q: "What will be the recreational opportunities?"

A. "Controlled recreation will be allowed — fishing, boating, camping, water skiing and hunting in designated areas. These facilities will be paid completely by the federal government."

What About It?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the many questions and rumors being circulated about the proposed Norman Reservoir.)

"What are some of the arguments against the project? All I hear are the 'pros'; what about some of the 'cons'?"

ANSWER: Probably the largest and most valid "con", supporters of the project agree, is the fact that the reservoir water will not, without treatment, be of the high quality of the present ground water, which is pumped into city mains with little or no treatment. Water from the lake will require extensive filtration and will be somewhat harder than the present supply, although the Bureau of Reclamation terms this a "temporary hardness that could be removed cheaply by treatment."

Some opponents of the reservoir have contended that ample ground water is available, and the lake is unnecessary. But no accurate measurement of the amount of ground water can be made, proponents contend. They point to evidence they have accumulated which they say shows the supply is being depleted, and how long it will hold out can be determined at best only by educated guesswork. Supporters of the project go on the theory of "better safe than sorry."

How Much Harder?

"How much harder will the lake water be than the well water?"

ANSWER: The present well water ranges from 0 to 60 parts per million (ppm) in hardness. The Bureau of Reclamation says water in the reservoir will have about 160 ppm. George Reid, director of the Bureau of Water Resources Research at OU, says good water can have up to about 100 ppm total hardness. If lake water is blended with ground water in the city mains, treatment to remove hardness will be unnecessary, Reid says. If not, it will have to be treated.

Part of Project HOW?

"What are the chances that the reservoir eventually will be part of Project HOW, the proposed navigation and water-supply canal linking central and southeast Oklahoma with the Arkansas River? How can we get drinking water if ships and barges are coming into the lake?"

ANSWER: Many persons connected with the reservoir and with Project HOW believe the Norman lake eventually will become the terminal reservoir for the canal, which is planned sometime in the next 25 to 50 years. As to the effect on the water supply, City Manager Joe Parris pointed out that the Great Lakes, the Mississippi, Ohio and Missouri Rivers and many other waterways also are sources of municipal water supplies.

Cost of Operation?

"What will be the operation and maintenance costs of the reservoir, and who will be responsible for the operation and maintenance?"

ANSWER: Costs of operation, maintenance and replacement for all three cities are expected to range from \$81,200 in the first year of operation to \$140,600 in the 50th year, with most of this amount going for electrical power. Norman's share would range from \$32,300 the first year to \$50,600 in the 50th year. The Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District will operate and maintain the reservoir. Harold S. Cooksey, district secretary, said a caretaker probably will be the only full-time employe, since the pumping stations will be controlled automatically.

What About It?

5-22-61

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the questions being asked about the proposed Norman Reservoir.)

“Will other cities be able to buy water from the reservoir, and under what conditions?”

ANSWER: The contracts between Norman, Midwest City and Del City and the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, as well as between the district and the federal government, allocate all of the water in the reservoir to the three project cities. Surplus water not needed by the three cities may be sold by the district only with the consent of the three cities.

Under a conservancy district law passed by this session of the legislature, another city could become a participating member of the district (thereby sharing in the water) only after a public vote in that city to petition for annexation to the district. The voters of all three project cities then would have to vote to allow the new members to be admitted.

Can Streams Be Dammed?

“Can any other city or individual dam any of the tributaries flowing into the Little River or Hog Creek?”

ANSWER: Norman, Midwest City and Del City own all of the water rights in the watershed that will serve the reservoir. The lake Oklahoma City is building on Elm Creek (which feeds into the Little River) is for storage of water from Lake Atoka, but Oklahoma City cannot impound any of the flow of Elm Creek.

Small retention dams for flood control or conservation purposes can be constructed in the watershed, so long as they do not interfere with the primary purpose of the reservoir.

Proposition 2, What It Means

Proposition No. 2, which will appear on the ballot at next Tuesday's Little River Reservoir election, authorizes the City Commission to levy ad valorem taxes to pay a portion of Norman's reservoir costs if revenues from sale of water in any year are not enough to meet that year's payment.

It is published here in full for the information of voters because it is quite lengthy and technical, and a simple explanation of its meaning and effect, prepared by John M. (Jack) Luttrell, city attorney, follows the proposition. Only taxpaying voters may vote on this proposition, which will be voted on by separate ballot from Proposition No. 1.

PROPOSITION NO. 2

Shall the City of Norman, State of Oklahoma, if the foregoing Proposition No. 1 be approved, pay a portion of the indebtedness created by said contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, but only to the extent and for the purpose of acquiring and owning, jointly with other cities or towns, water facilities in and in connection with the reservoir, pumping plants, pipelines and other conduits and accessory facilities to be constructed by the United States of America on Little River near Norman, Oklahoma, in accordance with P.L. 86-529, 86th Congress, and acquiring and owning, jointly and exclusively with said other cities or towns, a permanent right to the use of that portion of the project allocable to municipal water supply purposes upon completion of the payment of their construction cost obligation, by levying and collecting an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in the City, sufficient to pay interest at not to exceed 2.75% per annum as it falls due on that portion of the pro-rata share of the City of the reimbursable cost of construction of the project falling due within the initial 25 year contract term (assuming exercise of the renewal option), but not to exceed \$876,645, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of said portion of said indebtedness not to exceed \$876,645 within 25 years from the time of contracting the same?

(Two boxes appear below this proposition—one to be checked for the contract and one for expressing opposition.)

Got One Minute To Look Ahead?

- Q. What will we vote on May 23?
A. We will vote to authorize the city to enter into a contract for the construction and financing of a dam and reservoir on the Little River, its pipelines and pumping plants.
- Q. Is there a need?
A. Yes. Engineering studies by the Bureau of Reclamation, Guernsey Engineering Co., Rea Engineering Co. and others show the supply of well water is being depleted. With the expected growth of Norman in the future, wells cannot adequately supply the needs, surveys show.
- Q. What is the total project cost?
A. About \$18 million.
- Q. Who pays the total cost?
A. The federal government puts up the entire amount; then Norman, Midwest City and Del City repay their share (approximately \$11.5 million) over a 50-year period. The remaining \$6.5 million cost will be borne by the government.
- Q. How will the cost be allocated to cities?
A. Allocation of cost is based on the allocation of water in the reservoir, as follows:
- | CITY | COST | WATER ALLOCATION |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| Norman | \$4,847,850 | 43.8 per cent |
| Midwest City | \$5,231,100 | 40.4 per cent |
| Del City | \$2,408,700 | 15.8 per cent |
- (These figures include interest during construction and a 5 per cent contingency for unforeseen increases in costs. Midwest City's cost is higher than Norman's because of a longer pipeline.)
- Q. What does the cost include?
A. The acquisition of land and construction of the dam, reservoir, pipelines and pump stations.

EXPLANATION

An explanation of this proposition, by City Attorney Luttrell, follows:

- The federal government will not approve a contract between the city and the district based on a pledge of water revenues alone, but requires that at least a part of the obligation be payable out of ad valorem taxes if that becomes necessary.
- Proposition 2, if approved by the taxpaying voters, will authorize payment of not to exceed \$876,645 by means of ad valorem tax levies over the first 25 years of the contract, plus interest at not to exceed 2.75 per cent per annum on that amount.
- This figure, \$876,645, plus interest at not more than 2.75 per cent per annum as it falls due, is the maximum that could be raised by tax levies without another election and approval by the taxpaying voters of the city.
- The \$876,645 is the same as the amount of principal indebtedness of the city falling due under the contract in the first 25 years.
- Payments on the \$876,645 would be arranged to fall due in lesser instalments in the early years of the contract and would grow larger as our net valuation increases and we have increasing ability to pay.
- For example, in the first year's instalment (estimated to fall due in 1966) out of a total instalment of \$78,800 only about \$16,000 could be raised by tax levy. This is only 1 mill on our present city property valuation, excluding homesteads, and the levy is not expected to exceed 2 mills any time in the future, based on Norman's past rate of growth.
- Under the contract the City Commission could not levy taxes any more than necessary to meet the taxpayers' part of the next annual instalment, and could not levy for several instalments at one time.
- Under the contract, every time a payment is made, even if it is all from revenue without a tax levy, the taxpayers will be credited with their proportionate part of the payment, just as though a tax were levied, and the tax obligation will be reduced accordingly.
- None of the tax levy can ever be used to pay any part of the operation or maintenance cost. All taxes paid on the contract go to retire the city's share of the cost of construction of the project, or interest thereon.
- The tax levy will never be mandatory on the Commission. That is, to the extent that payment can be made from water revenues or any other source of funds without levying taxes, the Commission may do so.

Proposition 2, What It Means

(Continued From Page 1)

- The Commission cannot skip or reduce the levy for a year or more and then in a later year make up for it by combining levies for several years into one. This prevents the taxpayers from having to meet an unexpected obligation due to not having been called upon in previous years.
- In the first 10 years of the contract the federal government is not charging any interest on about \$1,548,000 of the city's obligation. This is permitted by a special provision in the federal law which is intended to compensate us for building a project big enough to serve us for many years in the future, and for building in more water storage capacity than we need at this time. The taxpayers will receive their portion of this deferred interest benefit and it will be written into the contract. (The \$16,000 figure in paragraph 6 above would be \$24,000 were it not for this provision.)
- Proposition 2 is submitted to the taxpaying voters under Section 27, Art. 10 of the Oklahoma Constitution, under which only qualified property tax-paying voters may vote, whereas Proposition 1 is submitted under Section 27A which permits such a contract to be made and authorizes a pledge of water revenues, but this section requires the question to be submitted to all qualified electors. That is the reason it is necessary to submit the propositions separately at this election.
- Each proposition carries a provision that unless the other one is approved nothing can be done.

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Got One Minute To Look Ahead?

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Q. Who pays the total cost?

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A. Allocation of cost is based on the allocation of water in the reservoir, as follows:

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Del City	\$2,408,700	15.8 per cent

(These figures include interest during construction and a 5 per cent contingency for unforeseen increases in costs. Midwest City's cost is higher than Norman's because of a longer pipeline.)

Q. What does the cost include?

A. The acquisition of land and construction of the dam, reservoir, pipelines and pump stations.

Q. Does this include the filtration plant?

A. No. Each of the cities will be responsible later for building a filtration plant or for its proportionate share of a central plant.

Q. What will be Norman's cost for filtration facilities?

A. The estimate is \$1.6 million.

Q. How will Norman finance its share of the reservoir cost?

A. On the basis of the present rate of growth and increase in water usage, studies indicate water revenue will be adequate under the present water rates to meet Norman's annual payments. Should revenue prove inadequate in any one year, a tax could be levied up to about 18 per cent of that year's costs. This levy would be from 1 to 2 mills.

Q. How will Norman finance the cost of a filtration plant?

A. Whether Norman builds its own plant or participates in a central plant, costs probably will be met by general obligation bonds or by revenue bonds through a trust agreement.

Q. What is the meaning of the May 23 ballots?

A. Ballot 1 is to authorize the making of a contract and the pledge of water revenue to meet the annual payments. (All registered voters of the city may vote on this issue.) Ballot 2 is to authorize a tax levy to supplement the water revenue, if necessary. The total levy during the first 25 years of the repayment cannot exceed \$876,645, or about 18 per cent of the total obligation. (All registered, taxpaying voters of the city may vote on this issue.)

Q. Do both issues require approval?

A. Yes. Both must pass if the city's contract is to be valid. And voters of Midwest City and Del City must approve similar questions to validate the conservancy district's contract with the federal government.

Q. What recreational advantages will be provided?

A. Fishing, boating, camping, water skiing and hunting in designated areas. All basic recreational facilities will be provided by the federal government.

Q. Will the cities own the dam, reservoir, pipelines and pump stations?

A. After paying their share of the construction cost, the cities will own permanent right to the use of the reservoir and all of its facilities for municipal water purposes.

Voting Light on Reservoir

Voting on Norman's participation in the Norman Reservoir project was erratic but generally light by noon today, a check of the city's 19 precincts revealed.

Workers at one or two of the polls reported a "pretty good" or "about average" turnout for morning voting, and one, at Lincoln School in Precinct 17, said that "we had the biggest morning rush I've ever seen — 50 before 9 o'clock."

But the total at noon was only 1,085 voters, far below the 1,404 at the same time during the City Commission primary election March 21 or the 1,694 counted

at noon in the runoff election April 4.

Unless afternoon and evening voting picked up considerably, it appeared that the total ballots cast would fall far short of the 5,000 predicted. The total vote on March 21 was 4,321 and on April 4, 4,927:

Precinct officials were instructed not to begin counting the ballots until after the polls close at 7 p.m., and no indication was available on the trend of voting.

Residents were to decide two questions. All eligible voters were entitled to vote on Proposition 1, approving a contract with

the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for repayment of Norman's share of the lake and pledging city water revenue to the repayments.

Taxpaying property owners received, in addition, Proposition 2, which would authorize a limited mill levy to help retire the city's obligation in any year in which water revenue appeared insufficient. The first payments are expected to fall due in 1965 or '66.

Workers at several polls reported that by far the large majority of those voting this
(See Page 3, Column 7)

A. After paying their bills...
own permanent right to the use of the reservoir and all of its
facilities for municipal water purposes.



5-23-61
**Voting Light
On Reservoir**

(Continued from Page 1)

morning were taxpayers who received both ballots.

The heaviest turnout shortly before noon was reported at McKinley School, Precinct 11, with 112, but it is one of the largest precincts with more than 1,000 registered voters. Precinct 12, the F. E. Bowen residence at 850 S. Flood Ave., was second with 92, followed by Precinct 10, Jackson School, with 87.

The lightest voting was at Wilson School, Precinct 3, 21; the Fred Jones Motor Co., Precinct 9, 25, and the Assembly of God Church, Precinct 15, 29.

The noon vote in other precincts was: 1—50; 2—47; 4—54; 5—66; 6—55; 7—72; 8—34; 13—82; 14—45; 16—47; 17—75; 18—37, and 19—55.

SUBTLE REMINDER—Voters at Woodrow Wilson Center, Precinct 13, had a subtle if unintentional reminder this morning of what issue they were to decide in the vote on the Norman Reservoir. Precinct workers (from left) Mrs. Lil Holtzclaw, Mrs. Tom P. Pace and Mrs. Bruce Houston had a pitcher and glass of water at hand. (Transcript Photo)

An Adequate Supply of Good Water Is Norman's Most Valuable Asset!

Cities everywhere are struggling against great pressures to protect or develop a precious natural resource—water. Unless ways are found and steps taken to save more fresh water and to convert salt water cheaply into fresh, the United States in a few short years will lack enough water to meet its needs.

Norman's problem is the same—only more acute. We have only a limited time to approve and build the Little River Reservoir so that water will be available before our wells play out. This project has the overwhelming endorsement of federal, state and city engineers, geologists, and others who have made a close study of the problem.

OPEN LETTER

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORMAN:

Your present City Commission believes that the Little River Reservoir project is the best known way of meeting the future water needs of Norman.

For more than ten years many dedicated citizens have worked to make possible an assured source of surface water for Norman. Our Commission was elected just as the project reached the critical point of discussion.

Between our election and our first meeting, we spent a great amount of time in studying the project. We read the various feasibility reports, listened to the engineers, the attorneys, and met with representatives from Midwest City and Del City. We had the benefit of the thousands of hours of work that had gone into this project before we were elected.

We concluded that our predecessor commissions had been very wise in pushing for this project and that we would fail in our duties to the people of Norman if we did not submit this issue to a vote at the earliest possible moment. We needed a vote prior to appropriation hearings in Congress, scheduled for early summer.

We are convinced of the soundness of the conclusions of the many engineers, geologists and experts who have told us that we are foolish to rely now or in the future upon wells for our water.

Some may argue otherwise, but the great preponderance of the evidence is that it is absolutely essential that we have a visible surface supply of water in order to furnish the absolute needs of our people.

We believe the Norman reservoir is the best known way of assuring enough water for Norman.

We urge you to vote for the Little River Reservoir Project.

(Signed) EARL SNEED, Mayor

ROBERT C. CHASTAIN, Commissioner

JOHN W. ELLIOTT, Commissioner

Dr. JOHN G. HEMPHILL, Commissioner

WILLIAM H. MATTOON, Commissioner

NORMAN McNABB, Commissioner and Mayor Pro-Tempore

Dr. CARL D. RIGGS, Commissioner

The Time to Act Is NOW!

---so that construction on the Little River Reservoir can start soon according to plan!

Mayor's Citizens Committee

Raymond Symcox, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

Walter Kraft, Chairman
Technical Information Committee

Mrs. James E. Gordon, Newspapers

Bill Sneed, Chairman
Speakers Bureau

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
Publicity Committee—

Mrs. M. H. Merrill, Radio

Robert L. Pendarvis, Direct Mail

Lake Project Aired by Panel During Session

Few Questions Asked by Public Of Participants

Details of the Norman Reservoir proposal were explained — seemingly to the satisfaction of everyone present — at a public forum at the Lockett Hotel Thursday night.

At least the flood of questions, particularly the controversial ones expected by the panel, failed to materialize. Only four of the estimated 75 to 100 persons in the audience rose to seek clarification of certain points brought out by the four speakers.

Cooksey Reviews Work

Participating were Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association; M. G. Barclay, area engineer from the Bureau of Reclamation; City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell and City Manager Joe Parris. William S. Morgan was moderator.

Cooksey, the first speaker, took time out to introduce "the man who started this program by becoming the first president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association," Dr. Francis Cella, director of the University Bureau of Business Research.

Cooksey then went on to review the history of the reservoir project from the time a small lake first was proposed in 1938 on the Little River about six miles upstream from the present dam-site. This proposal was declared unfeasible by the Corps of Engineers, Cooksey said, and the present location was chosen in 1952 by the Bureau of Reclamation to include the Hog Creek drainage.

Problems Discussed

"I doubt if there is one individual who has not been through an experience of this type who can conceive of the red tape and the work and the effort that has gone into bringing this project to its present state," he said.

Turning to the present ground-water supply, Cooksey said the city's water is becoming more mineralized than it was even 10 years ago, although "I like the water better today... because I can get the soap off."

But he added that the city "has constantly had water problems." He pointed out that a \$993,000 bond issue voted in 1952 for wells north of town has not yet been retired, "yet if the summer of 1961 becomes a dry summer, we will see water shortages and maybe even water rationing."

The solution, he said, is the "development of a water system here that will not be constantly causing us trouble." The reservoir, he said, will have excellent water that will be adequate for many years in the future.

Industry Brought Up

Although the recreational aspect of the lake is secondary, he said, "it certainly cannot be overlooked." He predicted the area between Norman and Little Axe will be filled with summer homes and cottages as the lake is developed.

"We should also see the development of some types of industry foreign to this part of the country," Cooksey said. "If this lake is properly managed, a small

(See Page 2, Column 2)

Details of Project Aired at Session

(Continued From Page 1)

but profitable industry in the way of commercial fisheries could be developed."

Barclay dealt primarily with the physical aspects of the reservoir. The water surface area at the top of the normal conservation pool is now figured at 5,720 acres, he said. The dam height will be 102 feet and will be an earth-filled structure about 7,400 feet long.

Capacity of Lines

Water will be delivered by pipelines to Norman, Midwest City and Del City, with the 10-mile Norman line having a capacity of 14 million gallons daily and pipe to the other cities having a capacity of 18 million gallons. The common pipeline to Midwest City and Del City will be 13 miles long to the division point. Midwest City's line will extend another three miles and Del City's about six miles.

Estimated total cost of the project, based on current construction costs, is \$18 million, Barclay said. He enumerated the amounts to be repaid to the government by the three cities — \$4,496,000 for Norman, \$4,841,000 for Midwest City and \$2,225,000 for Del City, for a total of \$11,562,000.

Land Use Cited

Rights-of-way will be acquired both in fee title and easements, he said, with the government buying all land to the top of the five-year flood control pool about 12,000 acres. Beyond that point an easement of about 3,000 acres will be purchased to the top of the maximum surface the lake could ever be expected to reach.

Of the 12,400 acres in the reservoir area, Barclay said, cultivated land comprises about 24 per cent, or 3,000 acres; bottom land pasture 22 per cent, or 2,700 acres; eroded upland pasture that has been cleared, 19 per cent, or 2,400 acres, and woodland or unimproved pasture, 35 per cent or 4,300 acres.

Mineral rights generally are left with the owners, he said, providing subordination costs are in reason. Subordination, he explained, means that whoever holds the mineral interests "will be permitted to develop the mineral rights, so long as they do not interfere with or jeopardize the primary purpose of the project, which is water supply."

Procedure Explained

Land will be purchased through appraisal and negotiation with the owners, and if agreement cannot be reached, both the government and the landowners have recourse to the courts. SH 9 and county roads will be relocated, with the highway crossing the dam and the rural roads re-aligned to serve both residents of the area and visitors.

Drainage area of the lake is 256 square miles, and the estimated average runoff, based on studies between 1926 and 1960, is 58,400 acre feet annually or 52 million gallons daily, he said. The reservoir will yield 21,900 acre feet annually, or about 19.5 million gallons daily "when integrated to a limited extent with existing ground-water supplies."

Norman will receive 43.8 per cent of the total water supply, or 8,570,000 gallons daily. Plans call for the project cities to retain their wells for emergencies and peaking periods. Ground water also would provide a safe water supply in case of temporary contamination of the lake from an atomic attack, he pointed out.

Benefits Broken Down

But the lake is planned to give the project cities 91 per cent of their total water supply over the next 50 years.

Benefits attributed by the government to the project will amount to \$1,113,000 annually, Barclay said. These include wat-

Hint—But Don't Shove

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—A patron at a drive-in theater asked the manager if he would use his car to give him a shove since his battery was dead. The manager agreed.

As instructed, the manager drove behind a car with its parking light on and began to nudge it. A man in the front car leaned out of his window and shouted:

"I'm leaving. I'm leaving. But you don't have to push me."

It was the wrong car.

er supply, flood control, fish and wildlife and recreation.

He also reviewed a little of the history of the project and pointed to the importance of the election in Norman Tuesday. A \$900,000 appropriation to begin construction in the 1961-62 fiscal year are in the budget, he said, and approval of this appropriation by Congress "will be governed by how Norman and the other project cities vote in the coming election. . . Without the ratification of the project by the water users, the government is not in a position to go ahead."

Road Funds Questioned

In reply to a question by Mrs. William Viavant, Barclay said costs of relocating both SH 9, farm-to-market, Indian roads and others are included in the total estimated cost of the project. Negotiations with the Highway Department, he said, led to an agreement in which the state will be responsible for a part of the cost of relocation of SH 9 and the government for the other part (in the immediate dam area).

Luttrell explained the two proposals to be submitted to voters Tuesday, and sample ballots were handed out to those present.

Proposition 1, which will go to all registered voters, authorizes the city to enter a repayment contract with the conservancy district and pledges water revenue to the repayment. Proposition 2, which will go only to taxpaying voters, authorizes a limited mill levy to pay some \$876,000 of the principal, during a 25-year-period, if water revenue proves insufficient.

Levies Projected

(Proposition 1 and Luttrell's explanation of it appeared on Page 1 of Thursday's Transcript; Proposition 2 is explained by Luttrell on the front page of today's paper.)

Using estimates of the city's valuation in the 25 years begin-

ning in 1966 (the year the first payment is expected to be due), Luttrell said the mill levy, even if used every year, could never exceed two mills. The average for the 25-year period would be 1.38 mills a year, "and the chances are we will never need to exceed a one-mill levy," he added.

Later in the meeting Luttrell presented another set of figures, projecting into the future the tax levy needed to retire the present bonded indebtedness and adding to it both a levy for water repayment and the tax needed to retire a \$1.6 million bond issue for a filtration plant.

"Happy Medium"

With increasing valuation and the reduction in the next five years of present indebtedness from \$2 to \$1,116,000, the present 12.1 - mill levy will be down to 7.4 mills by 1965, he said. With addition of 1 mill for water repayment and the levy for retiring the filter plant issue, the levy by 1968 would be about 13 mills — "practically the same as it is today," Luttrell said. "And it would drop off from there."

Parris said those who set up the election had "struck a happy medium" between use of water revenue and taxation for financing the reservoir. He also maintained he believes a tax levy will not exceed one mill "if it's used." "However, there's something that's hard to explain to people, and many folks have asked me how I can make the statement that I don't think we will have to increase water rates.

Greater Use Proposed

"First of all, our present water rate is rather expensive, especially in the first block. The average customer in Norman uses about 6,000 gallons of water (a month). Now, if we can increase that usage — and we can do this by 1965 and '66—by readjustment of our rates to encourage more use of water, the additional reve-

nue coming in from the additional usage will take care of this project."

The question of constructing a filter plant will have to be decided at a later date, Parris said. He pointed out that all three cities must approve the repayment contracts with the federal government, "and if they don't, we won't need a filter plant."

No Burden Seen

When the question does come up, he added, "it has been estimated Norman's share will be \$1,600,000." With the expected increase in valuation, the most such a bond issue could cost voters is about 6 mills a year, he said, "so this project, as I see it, will not be a burden or a hardship on the taxpayers from that standpoint."

"I believe we could readjust the water rates so that the more a person uses, the less it will cost him in the long run," Parris said. The City Commission is in favor of making a study of this proposition, he added, "and we may hear more of this at an early date. In other words, we will try to get our usage up before our first payment starts in 1965."

Board Explained

In reply to a question, Cooksey explained a few details of the composition of the board of directors of the conservancy district. Members are chosen by the governing boards of the respective cities and certified by the district judge, he said, with no city having more than three or less than one representative. The board members will serve staggered terms of four years each.

Mrs. P. T. Teska asked for further explanation of how Parris proposes to increase water usage. He replied that the average water bill in Norman now is \$4.95, "and we will need only about \$1 more per meter. If we can reduce the rate after the first 6,000 or 7,000 gallons, we can increase the usage enough to make up this amount."

Scovil Raises Question

Residents at present are "price conscious" in the use of water, he said. A study will have to be made to determine the exact breaking point for the lower rate, but after that point is determined "we might make the price 35 cents per thousand gallons instead of 60 cents."

Paul Scovil asked about the attraction of industry to the area — whether the city at present could assure a large industry of plentiful water at rates comparable to those offered by other cities and whether an industry could feasibly drill its own water wells.

Parris, pointing out that the answer would depend upon the amount of water the industry required, expressed doubt that a large amount could be guaranteed. He pointed out the city does not have an industrial water rate that can compete with those of other cities. He added that wells in the Norman area cost about \$25,000 each and "can cause you trouble, and I don't think very many industries want to fool with them."

"Different Situation"

"But if water from the lake was available, we'd have a different situation," he said.

George Reid, director of the Bureau of Water Resources Research, added that he anticipates a sizeable increase in industry in the area if the lake is constructed. Most cities, he said, set up an industrial-commercial rate to encourage industry. And industrial firms in this part of the country, he said, are ceasing to use their own wells and turning more and more to municipal water supplies.

That was the last question, and the forum adjourned about 9:15 p.m.

5/16/61

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A. After paying their share of the construction cost, the cities will own permanent right to the use of the reservoir and all of its facilities for municipal water purposes.

5/17/61

(One of a Series of Public Announcements Contributed by Interested Citizens and Taxpayers)

The Demand For Water at O.U. and In Norman Will Soon Exceed the Supply From Our Wells!

That's Why University Officials and Norman
Citizens Recommend the Immediate
Construction of the

Little River Reservoir

University officials have worked in close co-operation with Norman city officials, interested civic leaders and citizens for more than 10 years to secure an adequate surface water supply to serve ALL of Norman and O.U. Be prepared to vote "YES" in the coming city election, on May 23rd, so that construction of this vital facility can start as soon as planned.

Make Certain That You and
All of Norman Will Have a
Plentiful Supply of Good Water
Now and For Years to Come!

VOTE 'YES'

ON BOTH PROPOSITIONS

Tuesday, May 23rd

—FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1

—FOR PROPOSITION NO. 2

(The Federal Government requires
a "YES" vote on BOTH
propositions)

Mayor's Citizens Committee

Raymond Symcox, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

Walter Kraft, Chairman
Technical Information Committee

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
Publicity Committee

Mrs. M. H. Merrill, Radio
Mrs. James E. Gordon, Newspapers

Robert L. Pendarvis, Direct Mail

Bill Sneed, Chairman
Speakers Bureau

An Adequate Supply of Good Water Is Norman's Most Valuable Asset!

Cities everywhere are struggling against great pressures to protect or develop a precious natural resource — water. Unless ways are found and steps taken to save more fresh water and to convert salt water cheaply into fresh, the United States in a few short years will lack enough water to meet its needs.

Norman's problem is the same — only more acute. We have only a short time to approve and build the Little River Reservoir so that water will be available before our wells play out. This project has the overwhelming endorsement of government officials, engineers, geologists, and others who have made a close study of the problem.

OPEN LETTER

To the People of Norman:

Your present City Commission believes that the Little River Reservoir project is the best known way of meeting the future water needs of Norman.

For more than ten years many dedicated citizens have worked to make possible an assured source of surface water for Norman. Our Commission was elected just as the project reached the critical point of discussion.

Between our election and our first meeting, we spent a great amount of time in studying the project. We read the various feasibility reports, listened to the engineers, the attorneys, and met with representatives from Midwest City and Del City. We had the benefit of the thousands of hours of work that had gone into this project before we were elected.

We concluded that our predecessor commissions has been very wise in pushing for this project and that we would fail in our duties to the people of Norman if we did not submit this issue to a vote at the earliest possible moment. We needed a vote prior to appropriation hearings in Congress, scheduled for early summer.

We are convinced of the soundness of the conclusions of the many engineers, geologists and experts who have told us that we are foolish to rely now or in the future upon wells for our water.

Some may argue otherwise, but the great preponderance of the evidence is that it is absolutely essential that we have a visible surface supply of water in order to furnish the absolute needs of our people.

We believe the Norman reservoir is the best known way of assuring enough water for Norman.

We urge you to vote for the Little River Reservoir Project.

(Signed) EARL SNEED, Mayor
ROBERT C. CHASTAIN, Commissioner
JOHN W. ELLIOTT, Commissioner
Dr. JOHN G. HEMPHILL, Commissioner
WILLIAM H. MATOON, Commissioner
NORMAN McNABB, Commissioner and
Mayor Pro-Tempore
Dr. CARL D. RIGGS, Commissioner

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!
construction on the LITTLE RIVER RESERVOIR
can start according to plan!

Mayor's Citizens Committee

meox, Chairman
Budget Committee
aft, Chairman
mation Committee

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
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O.U.

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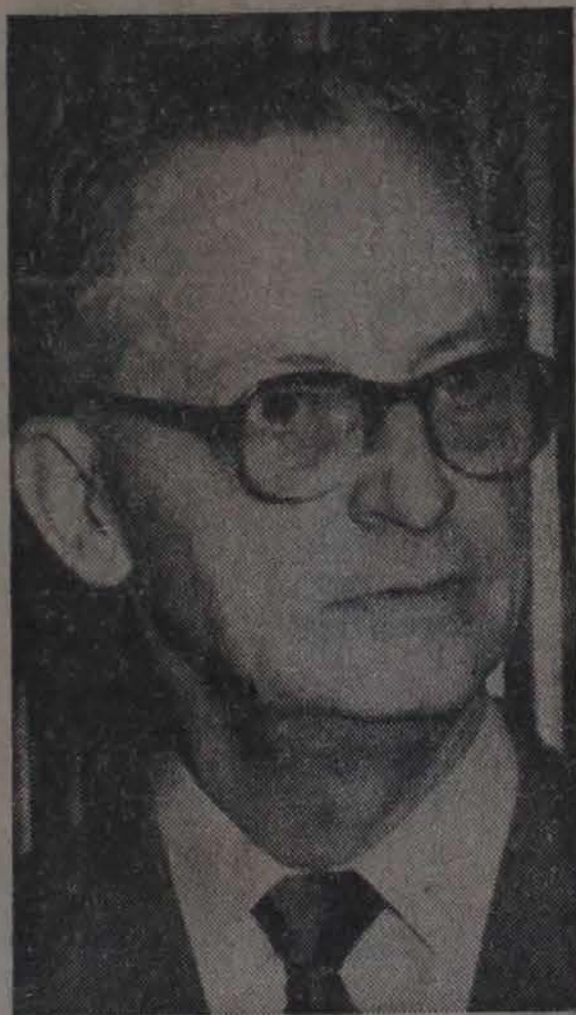
Need of Project Cited by Downing

Norman's need to maintain and control its own water supply was cited today by a long-time city businessman as the most important factor in the construction of the proposed Norman Reservoir.

"If we don't vote it in, we will lose our option on it, and Oklahoma City will build it," said James S. Downing, Norman drugstore owner. "If Oklahoma City should build this lake and we were forced to buy water from them, we would no longer be able to control our own local government. Neither would Midwest City nor Del City.

"Oklahoma City would like nothing better than to control all three through their water resources. If this were our only reason for voting for the reservoir, I think we should do it."

Downing also pointed to the drouth years in the late 1940s and early '50s, when water had to be rationed, and added that "there are some 5,000 more people living in Norman now."



JAMES S. DOWNING

"An adequate water supply is a must if Norman is to continue to grow and maintain its property values in the years to come," he said.

5/16/61

Reservoir Project Backed by Adair

Robert C. (Bob) Adair, business manager of Central State Hospital, today added his endorsement to construction of the Norman Reservoir.

"Norman must have an adequate water supply for the future," he said. "To depend on wells alone is taking a chance, since the water table has dropped in the past and can drop in the future as individuals, towns and cities north of us utilize this source of water."

Adair said Norman "is fortunate that this project can be developed so close to town. Many cities are looking for water, and some are having to go far from their city limits to get what they need. Having adequate water so close will encourage industry to settle in this area."

Recreational aspects of the lake also will be of benefit to Norman, Adair added, "not only for the people living in and around Norman, but for those who come from other areas and from outside the state.

"This benefit will not only be



BOB ADAIR

in the form of recreation itself, but those visitors will need services and goods, and Norman is the right place to provide them. This will mean more jobs for the people in and around Norman."

5/16/61
Our Point of View

Lake Side Issues Are Fading Away

By now the Little River Reservoir election issues should be sifted down to the big one; that of supplying plenty of water for the next 50 years to Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

Publication in The Transcript last week of the land holdings in the reservoir area of persons directly concerned with the project should stop all reports that city commissioners and others are buying land right and left and hope to make a financial "killing" out of it.

If you missed that story, the land deals boil down to these facts:

Mayor Earl Sneed has 804 acres of land along the upper part of the Elm Creek arm of the lake. The land has been owned by members of his family since 1894, and he would prefer to keep all of it in the family rather than for part to be taken for the reservoir.

John Elliott, city commissioner, has 80 acres along Elm Creek that he bought for recreational purposes for his two sons.

Norman McNabb, city commissioner, is one of a group of 14 who purchased a 40-acre tract along the south shore of the lake. He says he and the others plan to build permanent homes there. But even if he changes his mind and puts in a store for fishing and other supplies, other sites where others may put in such stores also will be available.

Several stores handling fishing, boating and camping supplies are found in the vicinity of all other large lakes in the state.

Dr. R. O. Ryan, former commissioner, has 160 acres along the Elm Creek arm where he has cattle. He says he will be hurt rather than helped by the lake.

Fred Reynolds, former commissioner, also has land along the Hog Creek arm and near the dam site, all of which he purchased more than 20 years ago.

No other commission or members of the Master Conservancy District have any land holdings.

Articles in The Transcript also have brought out that fishing, boating, skiing and other recreational activities at the lake will be secondary to the main purpose, that of providing a municipal water supply.

It is on this basis that Norman voters should consider the merits of the project before they go to the polls May 23.

If we want plenty of water in future years for household use and also for watering flowers and lawns in dry summers we should vote to authorize Norman to participate in this project and pay our share of the costs.

May 14, 1961

no one knows how soon the well will run dry, but when it does...

YOU Will Miss the Water!

Our water sands are being drained, and a shortage of water could come any summer. Norman can no longer depend on water wells for its entire supply, now or in the future. A surface reservoir is the best and only solution to this pressing problem. We must not let this opportunity slip through our fingers! Let's look ahead... let's grasp the opportunity NOW to insure an abundant, safe and dependable supply of good water.



Make Certain That You and All of Norman Will Have a Plentiful Supply of Good Water Now and for Years to Come!

Vote "YES"

ON **BOTH** PROPOSITIONS

TUESDAY, MAY 23rd

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 2

(The Federal government requires a "YES" vote on BOTH propositions)

The Time to Act Is NOW!

—so that construction on the Little River Reservoir can start soon according to plan.

Mayor's Citizens Committee

Raymond Symcox, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

Bill Sneed, Chairman
Speakers Bureau

Walter Kraft, Chairman
Technical Information Committee

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
Publicity Committee—

Mrs. James E. Gordon, Newspapers

Mrs. M. H. Merrill, Radio

Robert L. Pendarvis, Direct Mail

5/16/61

(One of a Series of Public Announcements Contributed by Interested Citizens and Taxpayers)

Norman Has Had Water Rationing

Twice in The Last 15 Years!

IT CAN HAPPEN AGAIN!

Make Certain That You and
All of Norman Will Have a
Plentiful Supply of Good Water
Now and For Years to Come!

VOTE 'YES'

ON BOTH PROPOSITIONS

Tuesday, May 23rd

- FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1
- FOR PROPOSITION NO. 2

(The Federal Government requires
a "YES" vote on BOTH
propositions)

At long last, the voters of Norman will have the opportunity that many University officials, and Norman citizens have worked for diligently for more than 10 years, to express our approval of a plan for a surface reservoir for present and future water needs of our City and the University of Oklahoma.

The proposal for financing the Little River Reservoir is so favorable to all who live in Norman that BOTH propositions in the coming city election should receive unanimous approval.

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Capital City Next Claimant on Lake Project

5-14-61

By JACK BAGBY

Oklahoma City could build a dam on the Little River and sell water to Norman "if we slip and lose our water rights by delay and negligence," an official of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District warned Saturday.

Harold S. Cooksey, secretary of the district, added that Oklahoma City "is the next junior claimant to us" for the water rights on the river, and he pointed to "ample evidence" that the capital city is still interested in the site of the proposed Norman Reservoir.

"If we are forced to buy water from any other source, and particularly any other city, that city will dictate the policies of Norman," he said. "The next step is annexation."

Cooksey also called attention to a state water law which indicates that the water rights of Norman, Midwest City and Del City on the Little River are rapidly approaching their expiration date.

The Department of the Interior in April 1953 applied for the withdrawal of all unappropriated water rights in the Little River watershed on behalf of the project cities. Oklahoma City immediately asked the state Water Resources Board to defer action on the request, but on May 11 the board allowed the withdrawal.

The next year — in September 1954 — Oklahoma City also applied for all the water rights on Little River and Hog Creek, apparently on a "just-in-case" basis. It renewed its application in September 1956 and September 1958.

In August of last year it filed plans for a reservoir on Elm Creek south of Tinker Air Force Base.

"But on the same date it again renewed its application for the Little River and Hog Creek water," Cooksey said.

(This was after Oklahoma City had begun work on the Atoka Reservoir project in southeast Oklahoma.)

Under state law, a U.S. government agency that withdraws water rights must file a plan of development of the proposed water project with the Water Resources Board within three years. The Bureau of Reclamation filed such a plan on the Norman lake in October 1954.

The law goes on to say that work on the project must be "commenced and continued with

due diligence within eight years from the date of the filing of the plans." Otherwise the river again becomes public water subject to general appropriation.

(The time limit earlier was reported as seven years, but a check of the law Friday showed an eight-year span is allowed before the beginning of construction.)

The time period on the Norman project thus would expire in October 1962. Present plans call for work to begin in the spring of next year, but these plans hinge on approval of the project by voters of the three cities this month and next.

Extensions of the time period may be allowed by the board if the project is delayed by Congress, by a state suit over water rights "or for other good and valid reasons." But the reservoir has been approved by Congress,

and a \$900,000 appropriation to begin construction is awaiting the result of the elections in the three cities.

In a letter to the Water Resources Board late in 1958, Morrison B. Cunningham, Oklahoma City water superintendent, referred to the Norman lake and added that "since we are still interested in the project, and if it is not constructed by other parties, the City of Oklahoma City would be interested in the development of the project in accordance with (an earlier) engineering report. . ."

"Suppose we are premature by five years on this lake," Cooksey concluded. "What does that time amount to, compared to the economy of our city, and whether we're going to have someone else dictate our economy through our water tap?"

5/17/61

Our Point of View

Voters Can Rely On Cost Estimate

Norman voters can have confidence when they pass on the Little River Reservoir proposals May 23 that the cost estimate of \$18 million for the lake is a liberal one, and the chances are remote that it will exceed that sum and Norman would be asked to increase its contribution of \$4,847,-850, payable over a 50-year period.

M. G. Barclay, area engineer of the Bureau of Reclamation who is in charge of the project, says the estimate of \$18 million includes a contingency allowance of 5 per cent for possible increased costs, but in his opinion the cost may actually be less than the estimate.

The cost was actually less than the estimate in the Foss Creek lake project in western Oklahoma, and the savings were credited to the Master Conservancy District and passed on by the district to the participating cities and towns.

Barclay has pointed out several times that on a lake project such as this, which will have an earthen dam and only one sizable relocation factor, the moving of SH 9, it is comparatively easy to determine costs, and estimates in practically all such reclamation projects prove adequate.

Norman voters, then, can have confidence that the cost will not exceed the estimate. However, if complications should develop and costs exceed estimates by more than 5 per cent the issue would have to be submitted again to the voters of Norman, Midwest City and Del City, and they would decide if they wanted to go ahead on the higher cost basis.

In view of Barclay's reassuring statements, we need not worry now about possible cost increases. We should be far more concerned with the need for an adequate, dependable water supply for the next 50 years.

5/17/61

What About It?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the many questions or rumors being circulated about the proposed Norman Reservoir.)

"The engineer's estimate on this structure is \$18 million. It could cost as high as \$35 million."

ANSWER: If it does, it will be only with the approval of the voters of Norman, Midwest City and Del City and upon their agreement to pay their share of the extra cost. The contract upon which Norman residents will vote pledges them to pay a maximum of \$4,847,850, plus interest not to exceed 2.75 per cent, over a 50-year period.

This includes the city's share of the estimated cost (\$4,497,000), interest during construction and a 5 per cent contingency for any increase in cost. If the cost should rise above the estimate by more than 5 per cent the contract would not be valid. To get the reservoir voters of all three project cities would have to approve new contracts at the higher cost figure.

Recent estimates by the Bureau of Reclamation have been liberal; the Foss Creek project near Clinton cost about 25 per cent less than estimated.

Quality, Quantity Best?

"Norman's underground water supply rates with the best in the nation in quality and in quantity."

ANSWER: In quality, yes; in quantity, no. C. F. Tolman, formerly of Leland Stanford University and a recognized authority on ground water, has said that "the methods of making a ground water inventory have not reached the accuracy necessary to make them acceptable to all investigators."

Engineer C. H. Guernsey, in a feasibility report on the reservoir, used data furnished by the U. S. Geological Survey and concluded that "the total estimated withdrawals in 1965 will equal the probable maximum possible recharge" of the water-bearing sands.

The Bureau of Reclamation in 1954 said withdrawals already were "substantially in excess of recharge" and concluded that the "water supply available . . . is considered to be reached the matter will be taken to court and the amount use, and to be entirely inadequate to support any substantial additional development in the area."

Land Purchases Questioned

"The president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District has said publicly and privately that they intend to get this land (in the reservoir area) as cheaply as possible."

ANSWER: The conservancy district has nothing to do with the acquisition of land. The property will be purchased by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, which will appoint appraisers and negotiators (mostly from the Norman area) to reach an agreeable settlement with the owner. If an agreement cannot be reached the matter will be taken to court and the amount will be determined by a jury.

Surrendering Water Supply?

"If we ratify any water contract with the conservancy district, we are surrendering our municipal water supply and a signed, blank check to the district."

ANSWER: The contracts of Norman, Midwest City and Del City with the district provide for the allocation of 100 per cent of the available water in the reservoir to the three cities. Surplus water can be sold by the district only with the consent of the cities, and money received from the sale must be credited to the obligation of the cities.

The annual payments of the cities to the district cannot total more than the district's annual payment to the government, plus necessary costs of operation and maintenance of the reservoir, and the district's total obligation to the government equals exactly the obligations of the three cities to the district.

5/18/61

Proposition 1, Its Meaning

Because the two ballot proposals for next Tuesday's Little River Reservoir election are quite lengthy and technical, The Transcript is publishing them in full for the information of voters.

The Transcript also is publishing with each proposal a simple explanation of what each one means and to what extent they commit the city of Norman.

Proposition No. 1, which authorizes the City Commission to enter into a 25-year contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, with option to renew the contract for another 25 years, is published below, and the city attorney's explanation follows. Proposition No. 2 will be published Friday.

All registered voters may vote on Proposition No. 1.

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the City of Norman, State of Oklahoma, enter into a contract with Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for a term of 25 years jointly with other cities or towns, with option therein granted to said City to renew the same for a period of 25 years, for the purpose of purchasing water from said District and acquiring and operating water facilities and purchasing reservoir space in and in connection with the reservoir, pumping plants, pipelines and other conduits and accessory facilities to be constructed by the United States of America on Little River near Norman, Oklahoma, at a maximum cost of \$18,000,000, in accordance with P.L. 86-529, 86th Congress, said cities and towns to own jointly and exclusively a permanent right to the use of that portion of the project allocable to municipal water supply purposes upon completion of the payment of their construction cost obligation, the principal contract indebtedness of the City of Norman for the initial 25 year contract term not to exceed \$4,847,850 if said option not be exercised or \$876,645 if exercised, and the principal contract indebtedness under said option not to exceed \$3,971,205, the said latter two amounts together making a sum not to exceed \$4,847,850, to be repaid in annual installments calculated on the basis of repayment over a period not to exceed 50 years, representing the pro-rata share of the City of the \$12,487,650 reimbursable cost of construction of the said project, including a 5% addition for contingent construction cost increase, all to bear interest at not to exceed 2.75% per annum, and in addition to the above amounts said City to pay its annual allocated pro-rata share of the cost of operation and maintenance of the project, computed as set forth in said contract, and for a term of 50 years from and after the date on which the first payment is required to be made by the City under said contract, (but for only 25 years if at the expiration of the initial 25 year contract term the option to renew the same for an additional 25 year is not exercised in the manner then provided by the Constitution and laws of the State of Oklahoma), pledge and pay said indebtedness and interest, to the extent same is not paid from taxes levied and collected upon all the taxable property in said City as provided in Proposition 2 hereinafter mentioned, and said operation and maintenance charges, from the revenues derived or to be derived from the sale of water, from whatever source obtained, by or on behalf of the City, and all revenues derived or to be derived from the use of the presently existing water transportation and distribution system owned by the City and any and all extensions and additions thereto provided: (1) that Proposition 2 submitted to the qualified property tax paying voters of said City this date, as set forth below, be approved by a majority of said qualified property tax paying voters voting thereon at this election, and (2) that a sufficient number of other cities or towns shall contract with the District, after securing approval therefor as required by the Constitution and laws of the State of Oklahoma, under contracts which are counterparts to that executed or to be executed by the City of Norman with respect to all conditions and privileges except those related to the amount of water to be received and the proportion of the cost assumed, so that payment to the District of the entire reimbursable cost of construction above set forth is lawfully obligated and assured?

(Two boxes appear below this proposition—one to be checked for the contract and one for expressing opposition.)

EXPLANATION

Here is City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell's explanation of the meaning of this proposal:

1. Approval of this will authorize the City Commission to make a 25-year contract, with option to renew for 25 years, with the conservancy district, to allow Norman to purchase water and have guaranteed water storage in the reservoir. The cost of this to Norman will be not to exceed \$4,847,850, arrived at as follows:

\$4,497,000 is share of Norman based on estimated construction costs now.

Plus \$120,000 for Norman's share of interest on the money during construction, because Norman and other cities do not start making annual payments until after construction is complete.

Plus \$230,850, which is 5 per cent added to above figures for possible increase in cost of construction.

Total, \$4,847,850.

2. Above cost is payable to the district in annual instalments, beginning after reservoir is completed, which annual instalments will carry interest at not over 2.75 per cent per annum. The instalments are arranged by the federal government so that they are smaller at the beginning and larger toward the end, thus postponing a large part of our obligation until the natural growth of the city makes us better able to make the larger payments, and we are using more of the water which the reservoir can provide.

3. In addition to payments on the above each city will pay its annual share of the operation and maintenance cost of the dam and reservoir and pipelines. This will be determined from year to year.

4. Approval of Proposition 1 will pledge payment of the annual debt instalments in full from water revenue, as well as the annual operation and maintenance costs, if the Commission finds it possible to make the full payment from such revenue. This pledge is for a period of 50 years, assuming option to renew the contract after the initial 25-year term is exercised.

5. When payment in full has been made by the cities, they have a perpetual right to the use of the municipal water supply facilities of the project. This right is guaranteed by the act of Congress authorizing the project.

6. Even though Proposition 1 carries, the contract cannot be made unless

(a) Proposition 2 also carries.

(b) Sufficient other cities also vote for and execute similar contracts so as to assure payment to the district and the government of the entire reimbursable cost, which is not over \$12,487,650.

Reservoir Forum Tonight

5-18-61

Information about the Norman Reservoir and the questions upon which residents will vote Tuesday will be available to all corners tonight at a public information forum at the Lockett Hotel.

A panel of four authorities directly connected with the project will be on hand to give brief statements, then answer questions from the audience. The program will start at 8 p.m.

The panelists are M. G. Barclay, Oklahoma City, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation; Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and secretary

of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District; City Manager Joe Parris and City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell. William S. (Bill) Morgan will be moderator.

The forum, which will be broadcast, is sponsored by the League of Women Voters as part of its voter-service program. Mrs. A. J. Croft, league president, said today the league has taken no stand for or against the reservoir but is offering the panel simply as a public service to voters.

The Humpty Dumpty parking lot west of the hotel will be available for those attending the program.

Cooksey is scheduled to open the forum with a brief review of the history of the project and the need for an additional water supply in the Norman area. Barclay will explain technical details of the reservoir itself, and Parris will discuss financing of the project. Luttrell will go into the legal aspects and explain the two ballot proposals.

Questions will be allowed both between talks and after all four have concluded their remarks, said Mrs. J. Bennett Clark, chairman of arrangements for the program.

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5-18-41

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5/17/61

NORMAN Has Worked for 10 YEARS

Just to Have the Opportunity
to Vote For the

LITTLE RIVER RESERVOIR



We'll Have That Opportunity on

TUESDAY, MAY 23rd!



If You Want to Insure An
Adequate Water Supply for
Norman, Be Prepared to

VOTE "YES"

- .. to make sure water will always come out of your tap!
- .. for the sake of the investment you have in your home, trees, and shrubs!
- .. for the sake of more and better jobs in Norman!
- .. to maintain the reputation Norman has for its excellent water — and in good supply!

MAYOR'S CITIZENS COMMITTEE

Raymond Symcox, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

Walter Kraft, Chairman
Technical Information Committee

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
Publicity Committee

Mrs. James E. Gordon, Newspapers

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of Good Water Now and for Years to Come!

Vote "YES"

ON BOTH PROPOSITIONS

TUESDAY, MAY 23rd

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 2

(The Federal government requires a "YES"
vote on BOTH propositions)

Remember . . .

Norman's share of the cost of the Little River Reservoir can largely be financed out of the City's water revenue, AT NO INCREASE IN RATES, according to city officials; with the strong possibility that LOWER WATER RATES can be made when an abundant supply of water is available.

May 15, 1961

OU Engineer Projects Water Usage of City

May 15, 1961

Norman will use considerably more water, if the Little River reservoir is constructed, than even the most liberal reports so far published have indicated, a University water authority said today.

George W. Reid, professor of civil engineering and director of the Bureau of Water Resources Research, termed as conservative figures by engineers John Rea and C. H. Guernsey, both of whom have made feasibility studies of the proposed reservoir.

Rea estimated the city's consumption of water in 1980 at 5.8 million gallons a day and in 2010 at 10 million gallons. Guernsey's figures were 5.5 million gallons and 12.3 million for the two periods.

Reid's estimate is 8.6 million gallons a day in 1980 and 18.8 million gallons in 2010.

Reid said Rea's estimates do not include water used by the University and Central State Hospital, which at present account for 52 per cent of the total pumped in Norman. The present daily consumption is 2.6 million gallons by the city alone but 3.9 million gallons with the University and hospital added, Reid said.

And neither researcher, he added, took into sufficient account the expansion in industrial development that can be expected to occur with the availability of a plentiful water supply. This would increase usage by another 30 to 40 per cent, Reid said.



GEORGE W. REID

Reid and Dr. W. N. Peach, professor of economics, based their prediction of total consumption on two main factors: the anticipated increases in population and in per-capita water usage.

They forecast a population of 69,000 in 1980 and 100,000 in 2010.

"These figures, I understand, were used by engineer Guernsey and are in agreement with those developed by Rea," Reid said. "For the same period, using . . . 210 gallons per capita per day (gcd) as an estimated maximum in the year 2025, Norman's unit use would be 125 gcd in 1980 and 188 gcd in 2010." (The present per-capita use in Norman, including OU

and the hospital, is 116 gallons a day, he added.)

Combining the per-capita use and the population growth gives the estimated annual average requirements.

In a paper given at the Oklahoma Water Conference in Muskogee in February, Reid went into more detail in "Municipal Water for Our Expanding Population," the title of his address.

Reid served with the Senate Select Committee on Water Resources in 1960, and in his talk he cited some of the conclusions of that group. One of the committee's comments was:

"Provision of plentiful water supplies in cities in arid regions, which now have limited supplies, could have a stimulating effect on industrial growth, which in turn could stimulate greater demands for water. Thus, when talking of future water development, the promotional impact of the development itself must be considered, especially as metropolitan concentrations in the East and Northeast become saturated.

"Migration of excess people to the Southwest, with attendant increase in industrial growth, could result in a substantial increase in average per-capita water consumption."

Speaking of water use in Oklahoma as a whole, Reid's paper said:

"Future municipal water requirements are estimated from the product of population and (See Page 3, Column 6)

Projected Water Usage Studied by OU Engineer

(Continued From Page 1)

per-capita use. I have suggested 181 gcd against a Public Health Service estimate of 138 gcd in (the year) 2000. At the present time about 132 gcd is being used municipally in Oklahoma; the nation uses 147 gcd, and over the nation the values range from 100 to 250 gallons per day....

"Regardless of whether...our total population increases markedly, urbanization will increase and our cities will grow larger with more industrialization and a higher per-capita use.

"Temperature is important...for example, areas with less than 15 inches per year rainfall average 210 gcd at present.

"Studies show an increase in per-capita use with higher family income. Oklahoma is in comparatively good shape in this respect. Urbanization is important; the highest per-capita consumption is not in the lowest or highest urbanization areas but in the medium — at present, areas (with) 60 per cent urbanization....

"Finally, consider industrialization. It not only accounts for an increasing share...as cities grow, but still another factor which could boost per-capita water consumption is the tendency of industries to abandon their own sources of supply and to

purchase water in increasing amounts from municipal systems.

"As wells and other sources available to them become polluted or destroyed, industries will, for economic reasons, seek more and more to connect with public systems. It is also anticipated that some of the larger industrial users will have to conserve their requirements and shift from their direct supplies to municipal supplies. This is particularly true of areas in which ground water supplies are rapidly being depleted.

"To these factors should be added the increased use of water-consuming equipment. To illustrate this point, consider two water-using utilities...which are growing in demand and can be anticipated to increase in use: (automatic) washing machines and disposal units.

"We have data demonstrating an increase of 120,000 per year in the sales of washing machines (which can be expected to use 300 per cent more water than is normally used to wash clothes... The disposal unit generally causes an increase of 1 to 2 per cent in water consumption. At present 3 per cent of the households have disposal units."

Reid expressed strong disagreement with national studies

that predict Oklahoma will be far behind the rest of the nation in the rate of population increase and urbanization.

"Of all the technical information that has been published, none is tied in with the water potential," he said. The studies he has made, in collaboration with other engineers, assume a major increase in the state's available water supply and show "that our urban growth rate, urbanization and population could be expected to follow the same general pattern they have followed in well watered areas..."

"I believe Oklahoma can grow, with the development of her resources; also I believe she will use more water per capita, namely 181 gcd, against their (the Health Service) projection of 138 gcd, as she grows."

Of the Norman project specifically, Reid said that for Norman "to be a dormitory town, as well as a city with additional industrial development, this water need is real. In fact, this growth simply will not occur without water."

The polling places:

1. Central Church of Christ.
2. Central Junior High library.
3. Wilson School.
4. Andrews Park building.
5. Norman High School warehouse.
6. Washington School.
7. First Christian Church.
8. Episcopal Church.
9. Fred Jones auto company.
10. Jackson School.
11. McKinley School.
12. F. E. Bowen home, 850 S. Flood Ave.
13. Woodrow Wilson Center.
14. Madison School.
15. Assembly of God Church.
16. First Church of the Nazarene.
17. Lincoln School.
18. Adams School.
19. Masters Transfer & Storage.

City Streets Due Study

5-25-61

The City Commission and committees from the Civic Improvement Council and Chamber of Commerce will tackle the problem of Norman Street improvements at a 1 p.m. session Friday at the Chamber office.

Mayor Earl Sneed has invited any interested residents to attend the meeting with the street committees of the CIC and C of C. The group will study maps showing the type and condition of each street in the city and the daily traffic counts on most of the major streets.

Members of the city engineer's office will present the data on street conditions, and the group is expected to discuss several proposed assessment districts for street resurfacing.

Reservoir Foes, Backers Cross Swords on Charges

(Continued From Page 1)

we could get all the water we need from wells — and this is extremely doubtful — we'd have a big problem before long in finding places to put them.

"The other point is that the life of a well is only about 20 to 25 years. The casings rust out, the sides cave in, and it costs as much to renovate one as to drill a new well. We are regularly having to abandon wells drilled before 1940, so unless we drill a tremendous number of new ones, we don't gain anything."

Alleged "minimizing" of the cost of the reservoir is taken care of in the contract Norman voters will be asked to approve Tuesday. If costs exceed the estimate by more than 5 per cent, the contract would be invalid. Voters would decide any new contract with higher cost figures.

CHARGE: "The reservoir would not eliminate the immediate need for several new water wells."

REPLY: "That depends to a great extent on how wet or dry the years are between now and the time the reservoir is completed," Parris said. "But don't forget we just acquired three wells from the University that we have not used yet."

He pointed out also that the last bond issue for water wells, some \$993,000, was voted in 1952. All wells since then have been drilled from general revenue, "and if we need more to get by, we could work them into the budget," he said.

CHARGE: "Some adverse

Competition

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (AP) — Retired railroader W. A. Kennedy, who lives in a white house in Prescott, answers his telephone:

"White House, Kennedy speaking."

This Kennedy hastens to add he is a Republican.

material in a much-discussed technical report on feasibility of the reservoir (the Guernsey report) has been hushed up."

REPLY: Guernsey's 1959 report states that "in comparison with the rate of withdrawal in the past there is an immense storage of ground water in this area. . . Except for local conditions at Norman, the depletion up to the present time is not serious. . . Withdrawals, even a substantial increases. . . can be made for a comparatively indefinite rate of time, provided the withdrawals are spread over a wide enough area."

But the report also concludes (and this is the part that has been most widely publicized) that "while it appears that the project cities could obtain a water supply sufficient for their requirements to 1980 and possibly to 1990, this would require developing a very large area, and its cost would be ex-

cessive, very likely twice as much as the cost of the proposed surface supply."

CHARGE: "The sale of water to Oklahoma City is a possibility that has been suggested frequently by backers of the reservoir. If this happens, the lake would not supply both the project cities and Oklahoma City."

REPLY: "We have tried several times to interest Oklahoma City in buying water that is surplus to the needs of the project cities," Cooksey said. "Norman, Midwest City and Del City have the rights to all of the water in the reservoir, but for the first years of the project they will not need all their water, and it would be a big financial help if Oklahoma City would buy the surplus. But the surplus is all that could be sold."

CHARGE: "The Guernsey report says a central filtration plant would cost more than \$3 million."

REPLY: True — so does the Bureau of Reclamation. Norman's share would be about \$1.3 million, plus perhaps another \$300,000 for lines and equipment necessary to tie in the new water supply with the city's distribution system. Parris estimates a separate filter plant for Norman alone would cost the city about the same amount.

But Parris, water engineer George Reid and others also point out that a filtration plant may be built in stages sufficient to provide the maximum daily demand, plus a small reserve. As water use increases, the plant may be expanded.

Drive Launched For Lake Project

By JACK BAGBY

More than 120 persons out of 40 invited turned out at 7 a.m. today for a breakfast meeting to launch a citywide informational campaign leading to a vote May 3 on the city's participation in the Norman Reservoir.

The crowd — representative of virtually every organization, official body, institution, major business and industry in Norman — was on hand to gather information about the project and pass it along to voters. It accomplished the first and outlined a top-speed program for the second.

Officials most closely associated with the proposed reservoir on the Little River sketched in the basic facts — why the lake is needed, the costs to each parti-

cipant, how the costs will be paid and the meaning of the questions upon which residents will vote in 12 days. Then the meeting was opened for questions. There were plenty — and all were answered.

Probably, the most significant news to come out of the meeting — and the most heartening to the average water user and taxpayer — were the statements that (1) water rates are not expected to increase, and (2) a tax levy may not be necessary at all in most years and, if it is levied, probably will not exceed one mill (\$1 for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation).

Dubbed the "Mayor's Committee of 140," most of the group found itself assigned to various
(See Page 2, Column 7)

What About It?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the many questions or rumors being circulated about the proposed Norman Reservoir.)

"The lake will be just one big silt trap and will be silted in in just a few years."

ANSWER: The Bureau of Reclamation has figured the amount of silting, or sedimentation, over both 50 and 100 years. It shows an initial capacity of 119,567 acre feet in the normal water-supply pool. (An acre foot is 325,828 gallons.)

After 50 years this capacity would be 102,892 acre feet and after 100 years, 86,567 acre feet. These calculations were made before the formation of the Upper Little River Watershed Association. This organization has plans for conservation practices which would greatly reduce the sedimentation.

Can Norman Lose Site?

"If Norman and other cities don't approve the contracts, what happens? Can Oklahoma City take the lake away from us?"

ANSWER: Fred Gray, field solicitor for the Department of the Interior, says if any one of the cities fails to approve the contract, a \$900,000 appropriation requested by the Bureau of Reclamation for starting construction in the next fiscal year probably will be diverted to another project.

Oklahoma City has applied for the water rights and is next in line after the rights of Norman, Midwest City and Del City expire late in 1962. Whether the state would grant an extension of these rights, pending possible future approval of the contracts, is anyone's guess.

Who Will Handle Recreation?

"How will recreation facilities be handled—privately or by a government agency?"

ANSWER: This has not been decided definitely, but officers of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District have indicated they would prefer to turn over recreational facilities to the state Planning and Resources Board, which operates all state parks, and the fish and wildlife facilities to the state Wildlife Conservation Commission.

The district or the three cities involved could operate these facilities, but this probably would involve a nominal charge to the public for the use of the facilities to cover costs of operation. The state would operate them without charge. The U.S. government's only part will be in constructing the facilities and offering consultation through the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Open Meeting To Air Reservoir Questions

Got a question (or maybe two or a dozen) about the Norman Reservoir and what you will be voting on next Tuesday?

Your chance to get them answered will come Thursday night, when those most closely connected with the project will be on hand for a public forum at 8 p.m. in the Lockett Hotel ballroom.

Taking part in the forum will be M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation; Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District; City Manager Joe Parris

and City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell. William S. Morgan will be moderator.

Mrs. J. Bennett Clark, chairman of arrangements for the forum, said each of the speakers will be given about 10 minutes to explain a particular phase of the project, and questions on that phase will be allowed after each talk. When all have finished speaking the meeting will be opened for a general question-and-answer session.

Cooksey is scheduled to begin the program with a general history of the project and a discussion of the need of additional water, and Barclay will follow with an explanation of the engi-

(See Page 3, Column 7)

Open Session To Air Reservoir Questions

(Continued From Page 1)

neering and physical details of the reservoir.

Parris will go into the financing, both of the reservoir itself and of the filtration system that must be provided later. Luttrell will explain the legal aspects and the two ballot questions upon which residents will vote next Tuesday, authorizing the city's repayment contract and pledging revenue to the financing of the project.

Also on hand in the audience will be various other engineers, city and conservancy district officials and others who may be able to elaborate on various points raised by the questioners.

Mrs. A. J. Croft, president of the League of Women Voters, sponsor of the meeting, said the

Humpty Dumpty Supermarket west of the hotel has agreed to make its parking lots available to those attending the forum. The program also will be broadcast.

Under the general supervision of Mayor Earl Sneed, a large number of Norman organizations, including the LWV, the Civic Improvement Council, the University Research Institute and others, are aiding in the spreading of information about the reservoir proposal.

One of the most active will be the Junior Chamber of Commerce, which will have loud-speaker trucks in operation on election day, urging residents to go to the polls. The Jaycees also will provide rides to the voting places for all who need them.

What About It?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: These are some of the many questions and rumors about the proposed Norman Reservoir.)

"I don't believe there is enough water running down the Little River to fill that lake in 10 years."

ANSWER: The lake (to be fed by both the Little River and Hog Creek) is designed to hold, in the normal water-supply pool, approximately 120,000 acre feet. (An acre foot is 325,828 gallons.) The Bureau of Reclamation says the annual discharge at the damsite "varies from a maximum of 173,900 acre feet to a minimum of 13,200 acre feet and averages 64,900 acre feet."

Thus the lake, with normal precipitation, would fill in a little less than two years. In wet years such as 1957, when 149,000 acre feet flowed downstream, it would fill in less than one year.

Project Not Feasible?

"The Corps of Engineers once made a survey of the Little River project and turned it down as not being feasible."

ANSWER: The Corps in 1947 surveyed a proposal for a dam several miles upstream from the present site and a lake that would hold about 11,000 acre feet as a water supply for Norman alone. It concluded that "construction is not economically justified" and recommended that it not be built.

Partly as a result of this report, the dam location was moved downstream to take in the Hog Creek drainage, as well, and a 120,000-acre-foot lake was planned for Norman, Midwest City and Del City. The Corps' 1953 report on this proposal was favorable.

Conflict in Recreation?

"If water skiing is allowed, there won't be any fishing—the two just don't go together!"

ANSWER: Virtually every lake in Oklahoma allows both fishing and water skiing. The National Park Service and officers of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District have recommended that the lake be "zoned," with boating and water skiing confined to certain areas and fishing to others.

Big Reservoir Question: 'What Will It Cost Me?'

By JACK BAGBY

The voice on the telephone was not familiar, but the question was.

"Look," it said, "all this information about the Norman Reservoir is fine, if I ever write a book about the lake. But there's only one thing I really want to know: What is it going to cost me?"

Later on, after a little more information had been published, a barber put it differently — and more strongly.

"I'm not that dumb!" he roared, jabbing his scissors like Errol Flynn parrying the villain's blade. "They're trying to whitewash this whole thing by telling me that \$18 million lake isn't going to cost me any-

thing. If they keep that up, I'll vote against it!"

"Now, hold on a minute, friend," I said, eyeing the scissors warily. "In the first place, 'they' haven't said the lake won't cost you anything. It's just that things look a lot brighter, what with deferred interest, anticipated revenue . . ."

"Revenue, schmevenue," he snorted. "What's it gonna cost me?"

That question again.

Okay — here's the answer. But remember we're speaking of payments beginning about five years from now and continuing over a 50-year period. So the best answers must necessarily include some "ifs" and "mays."

If Norman's population, water consumption and valuation

continue to increase as anticipated, no raise in water rates is expected. There MAY be a mill levy averaging about one mill (\$1 for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation) in some years — possibly even most years. And there almost certainly will be a bond issue for a filtration plant to be retired through an ad valorem tax (although it is conceivable this also could be financed through water revenue if voters chose to go to trust financing).

City Manager Joe Parris insists that not only will the present water rates be retained but that rates for water above a certain amount each month will be lowered, in order to encourage greater use.

"There are two very good and

simple reasons why we won't raise water rates," Parris said. "One, we can't. Two, we don't need to."

"We already have reached the point of diminishing returns with our high rates. People are using less water because it's too high. Further rate increases would just lower consumption still more."

"But Norman is growing steadily; we're adding water meters at the rate of about 325 a year. At the present time, partly because this is a wet year and partly because of the high rates, our per-capita use from city wells is only about 55 gallons a day. We need only to get this rate up to 70 gallons a person per day, coupled with the expected increase in

population, to have enough water revenue to pay our share of the reservoir."

(Figures by George Reid, director of the University Bureau of Water Resources Research, differ somewhat from those by Parris, in that Reid's estimate of the present consumption is 92 gallons per person each day. But Reid's figures are based on the total amount of water pumped from city wells, while Parris is calculating only that metered and sold. The difference is in seepage, leaks, water used by the city for fire fighting and for other purposes.)

Parris suggested a thorough study of water usage and then a drastic slash in rates—perhaps by 50 per cent — for wa-

ter above a certain amount each month.

"A lot of people who don't use much water now will water their lawns and shrubs if they know that the more water they use, the less per gallon it will cost them," he said.

At least two unknown factors, either of which could increase consumption and lower rates, also enter the picture, Parris said. One is possibility of OU's participation in water from the lake and the other is the amount that may be used by industry attracted to a plentiful water supply.

The University, which with Central State Hospital uses more than half as much water as the city, often pumps its wells to
(See Page 2, Column 2)

5/17/61

Ex-Commissioner Backs Reservoir

5-17-61

"I served on the City Commission back there when we had water rationing," electrician Jess Waters said today. "I know what it is, and I don't want any more of it. We've got to have that Little River reservoir."

Waters had words of praise for those who have worked toward construction of the Norman Reservoir over the last 10 years.

"I have the utmost confidence in their honor and integrity," he said. "They have no financial interest in the project, and they are sincerely interested in what is best for Norman. All of the studies and estimates have been made in an above-board manner."

The electrical firm owner also expressed belief that estimates engineers have made on the city's water needs and the cost of the project are as accurate as possible.

"I'm personally not particularly interested in the recreation aspect of the lake," he said, "but I believe this lake can do for Norman what Lake Murray did for Ardmore before Lake Texoma was built. It will bring additional money into Norman for the services and goods needed at the lake."

"And I'm convinced, also, that Oklahoma City will take over the water rights if we don't keep them."



JESS WATERS

Vote on June 20

5-26-61

Midwest City Calls Reservoir Election

The City Council of Midwest City Thursday set June 20 as the official date for an election on that city's participation in the Norman Reservoir project.

The council at Del City was to meet at 6:30 p.m. today with the expectation of calling its election on the proposal for the same date.

Norman voters Tuesday approved the two propositions clearing the way for Norman's participation by an overwhelming majority of 13½ to 1 and 11 to 1. But similar propositions must be passed by the other two project cities before work on the \$18 million dam and reservoir on the Little River can proceed.

Failure by any one of the cities to approve contracts for its share of the repayment would invalidate the contracts of the other cities.

Midwest City's obligation, over

a 50-year period, is \$5,231,100—larger than Norman's because of the extra length of the pipeline involved. Del City's share is \$2,408,700. Norman will pay \$4,847,850. These figures include interest during construction of the dam, plus a 5-per-cent contingency for an increase in construction cost over the engineer's estimate.

City Manager Bob Quinlan of Midwest City said his council is forming a public-education committee to inform local voters of the issues and facts involved in the project. Huey Long, manager of Del City, said his community's campaign probably will involve "about the same pattern."

Both cities are handicapped in distributing information to voters by the fact that neither has a daily newspaper or a radio station. Information will be given

(See Page 3, Column 2)

Midwest City Election Set

(Continued from Page 1)

primarily through handbills and public meetings, with the assistance of the weekly newspaper in Midwest City, Quinlan said.

Like Norman, the communities to the north are expected to vote on two questions. One approves the contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for the city's share of the costs and pledges water revenue to the repayment of the money. The other, required by the federal government as a "backstop," pledges a limited tax levy, if needed, toward retirement of the debt.

All registered voters may vote on the first question but only taxpaying property owners on the second.

If the questions are approved in Midwest City and Del City, purchase of land for the reservoir is expected to start in the fall and actual construction by spring.

'What About Us?' Farmers in Lake Area Ask

5-12-61

By JACK BAGBY

"What about us?"

That's a question asked frequently in the Norman Reservoir area by farmers who stand to lose part or all of their property.

The answers come from M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, and Jack Herron, office manager of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) County Committee.

Barclay explains the purchase procedures and Herron crop allotments for farmers who are forced to relocate.

Barclay said the first land for the reservoir—and that only in the damsite construction area—probably will not be purchased before Jan. 1. After that date,

acquisition of all the land needed for the lake is expected to take about 18 months more.

The procedure, as he outlined it, is this:

The Bureau will hire a board of seven to nine appraisers. Most are expected to be from Norman or the immediate area, although some may be from Chickasha, Oklahoma City or other nearby points. All will be qualified appraisers who know the value of farm real estate in this area, Barclay said.

Each parcel of land will be appraised independently by three men, who will take into account the condition of the soil, type of crops and (in a separate appraisal) the improvements on the land.

The three will then meet and decide on an offer for the

property, turning this figure over to a negotiator. He confers with the property owner and attempts to come to a price satisfactory to both.

If the negotiator believes the appraisers have overlooked something of value or have appraised certain facilities too low, he may return to the board and ask it to raise its appraisal.

If a price is agreed upon, the property owner will get his money within six weeks after the title is inspected and cleared, Barclay said. He also will be allowed up to \$5,000 for moving expenses if he relocates on another farm, but until the time the land is actually needed by the government he may, through negotiation, continue to live on and farm the land.

If the property owner refuses

the bureau's offer, the government will file a condemnation suit in the U.S. District Court, Oklahoma City. There, in a jury trial, the property owner may present his case, and the jury fixes the price of the land.

The government will buy outright all land and improvements up to an elevation of 1,042.3 feet, squaring off the contours in 10-acre blocks. Above that elevation, to 1,064.5 feet, it will buy an easement and all habitable structures within the easement. The first elevation is figured to be the five-year flood stage, the second the maximum water surface area (which the lake probably will never reach).

All structures will be purchased with the intention of razing them and selling the material for whatever salvage val-

ue it will bring. But if a farmer owns a house within the easement and prefers to move it to a higher elevation, rather than build a new home, he may buy it back from the government at its estimated salvage value. The difference in the two prices, in most cases, would pay for the moving of the house.

In buying the easement the government buys, in effect, the right to flood the land if the need arises. But the property owner may continue to use the land for any purpose except living upon it.

Farmers whose land is purchased by condemnation or under threat of condemnation (as would be the case in all of the government purchases in the reservoir area) are not subject

(See Page 3, Column 3)

Norman Gives Reservoir Project Approval in Landslide Vote

By JACK BAGBY

Norman residents Tuesday approved the city's participation in the Norman Reservoir project by a landslide margin of 13½ to 1.

An accompanying mill levy, if needed to help finance the project, was approved by 11 to 1.

Voting, which started slow in the morning, picked up later in the day to see 4,344 residents troop to the polls. Of these, 3,859 were taxpayers who were permitted to vote also on the second proposition.

The vote on Proposition 1, approving the city's contract for repaying over a 50-year period its share of the reservoir and pledging water revenue to meet the payments, was 4,009 to 299. The vote on Proposition 2, authorizing

yearly levies which could total \$876,645 in taxes over a 25-year period, was 3,519 to 308. Mutilated or unmarked ballots accounted for the rest of the total vote.

Both questions carried in all 19 precincts, in some by margins as high as 37 to 1.

The overwhelming vote for the reservoir in Norman now leaves construction of the \$18 million project squarely up to voters of Midwest City and Del City, who must approve similar questions in their cities. The elections there tentatively are scheduled for June 20.

Both propositions must be approved by all three cities before the contract of any of them is valid. The three together will repay to the government some

\$11.5 million, plus interest, over 50 years, if all three contracts are approved. The government will pay the other \$6.5 million.

Norman's share, including interest during construction and a 5 per cent contingency for any increases in costs over the engineer's estimate, is \$4,847,850.

The heavy support for the project here is expected to have at least two immediately beneficial results.

Hearings before the Appropriations Committees of both the U.S. House and Senate are tentatively scheduled for the week of June 12. Harold S. Cooksey, secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, said today. The hearings are on a \$900,000 appropriation requested

by the Bureau of Reclamation to start construction of the dam on the Little River during the 1961-62 fiscal year.

"I talked to Don McBride (administrative assistant to Sen. Robert S. Kerr) this morning," Cooksey said. "He thought the vote was wonderful and that it will help us a lot."

Cooksey and others from here plan to appear before the committees in support of the appropriation.

The Norman vote also was expected to have a strong bearing on the outcome of the Midwest City and Del City elections.

"I think it will have quite a bit of influence on our vote," Midwest City Manager Bob Quinlan said today. "The fact that it

went over so heavily in Norman will tend to spur people here. A lot of people who work at Tinker Field live in Norman, and they will be mixing with Del City and Midwest City residents, urging them to vote for the reservoir."

Huey Long, Del City manager, said that "I'm sure it (the Norman vote) will help. A lot of people up here were real anxious about your election and happy at the way it turned out."

Officials of the two cities plan to meet in the next few days, the two managers said, to work out details of their elections.

Praises for the hundreds of residents who had helped spread information about the reservoir came from Cooksey and Norman

City Manager Joe Parris.

"It just shows what people will do when you give them all the facts," Cooksey said. "This kind of teamwork has been characteristic of this project ever since I've been associated with it. No one I've asked to do anything has ever failed to put his very best into it."

Parris said the results of the election "show what a community can do when it works together. We had so many groups and people working on this thing that it couldn't fail. They're the ones who made it successful. And it's a good indication of greater things for Norman."

Mayor Earl Sneed was out of the city today, but his satisfaction with the vote was evident

as returns were reported at the City Commission meeting Tuesday night.

Workers at nearly all of the precincts reported that voting picked up rapidly after 5 p.m. At Jackson School, Precinct 10, which recorded the largest vote, workers reported more than 300 of the 424 total came in during the last 1½ hours before the polls closed at 7 p.m.

Precinct officials said many voters remarked they had forgotten about the election until they were reminded of it by Tuesday evening's Transcript.

The first box, from Precinct 15 at the Assembly of God Church, came into the county Election Board office at 7:22 p.m. Others followed quickly.

But a comic-opera situation developed later in the evening when the tally from the last box had to wait while election officials from Precinct 5 tried to explain why they were going the wrong way on a one-way street.

Mrs. W. F. Shaw, a clerk at the polling place at Norman High School, said she started for the Election Board office with that precinct's results about 9 p.m. But she failed to notice that Pickard Avenue east of the school had been made a one-way street to the north and turned south right in front of a police car.

The final results were tabulated when Precinct 5 results arrived at 9:20 p.m.

5-3-41

Water Comes First, Then Recreation

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fifth in a series of articles on the proposed Norman Reservoir. Today's explains some of the recreational aspects and ownership and use of the shore line. Future stories will explore the costs and methods of repayment of Norman's share of the cost. Readers are requested to clip these articles for future reference.)

By JACK BAGBY

The proposed Norman Reservoir will be, above all, a municipal and industrial water supply. It was designed for that purpose and was so authorized by Congress.

But no one envisions the lake

as one huge, untouched reservoir of potential bath water. The picture that comes to the mind of nearly everyone, from federal officials to novice water skiers, is one of tents and camping trailers dotting a wooded shoreline, fishermen casting from the shore or trolling slowly through deep water, skiers cutting across the wakes of boats and possibly even swimmers splashing beyond a sloping beach.

The chances are that most of those mental pictures are pretty accurate.

Approximately one fifth of Oklahoma's population lives within 25 miles of the proposed damsite 12 miles east of Norman on the

Little River. More than 30 per cent live within 50 miles — and no other lake of comparable size is within that radius. More than three-fourths of the residents of the state who do not live within 50 miles of a major recreation area would be within that distance of the Norman Reservoir.

The National Park Service in 1954 (when less than one-fourth of all Oklahomans lived within 50 miles of the proposed lake) estimated annual recreation benefits at a minimum of \$110,000 a year. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service at the same time set fishery and wildlife benefits at \$190,100 a year. These estimates are of benefits to the camping,

skiing and fishing public, rather than to any local interests that might profit from the sale of supplies, equipment and services.

The only type of outdoor recreation the reservoir might not include is swimming. The Park Service, in its comprehensive report, states:

"Slopes at suitable locations for practical beach construction... were observed in only two areas. Inasmuch as swimming is not considered by the state health authorities as entirely compatible with the municipal water supply function, this lack of good beach sites may not be too serious."

But in the rest of its report,
(See Page 2, Column 2)

Water Comes First, But Recre

(Continued from Page 1)

the supposedly staid government body at times comes suspiciously close to waxing lyrical about the recreational advantages of the reservoir. For example:

"Just west of the site the topography is relatively level, characteristic of extensive areas of central Oklahoma. However, the topography changes rapidly about five miles east of Norman, becoming rolling and wooded in pleasing contrast to the open plains to the west....

"The general shape of the principal pool would be irregular enough to give a pleasing effect. Its length would permit a vista over water of about five miles in the Little River Valley and of three to four miles in the Hog Creek reach. The inundated valleys of Dave Blue and Clear Creeks will each form interesting arms of a mile or more, with widths up to a fourth of a mile....

"Coves and bays well suited for large boating and fishing developments will be available.... Numerous smaller coves, suitable for smaller developments, will also be created....

"Summer home and moderate size club or organized camp sites, admirably suited to the purpose, can be found in extensive sections of the shore area."

The last point brings to mind some frequently asked questions: "How much land will the government own in the lake area? How far back from the water will the land be controlled, and what will be the restrictions on it?"

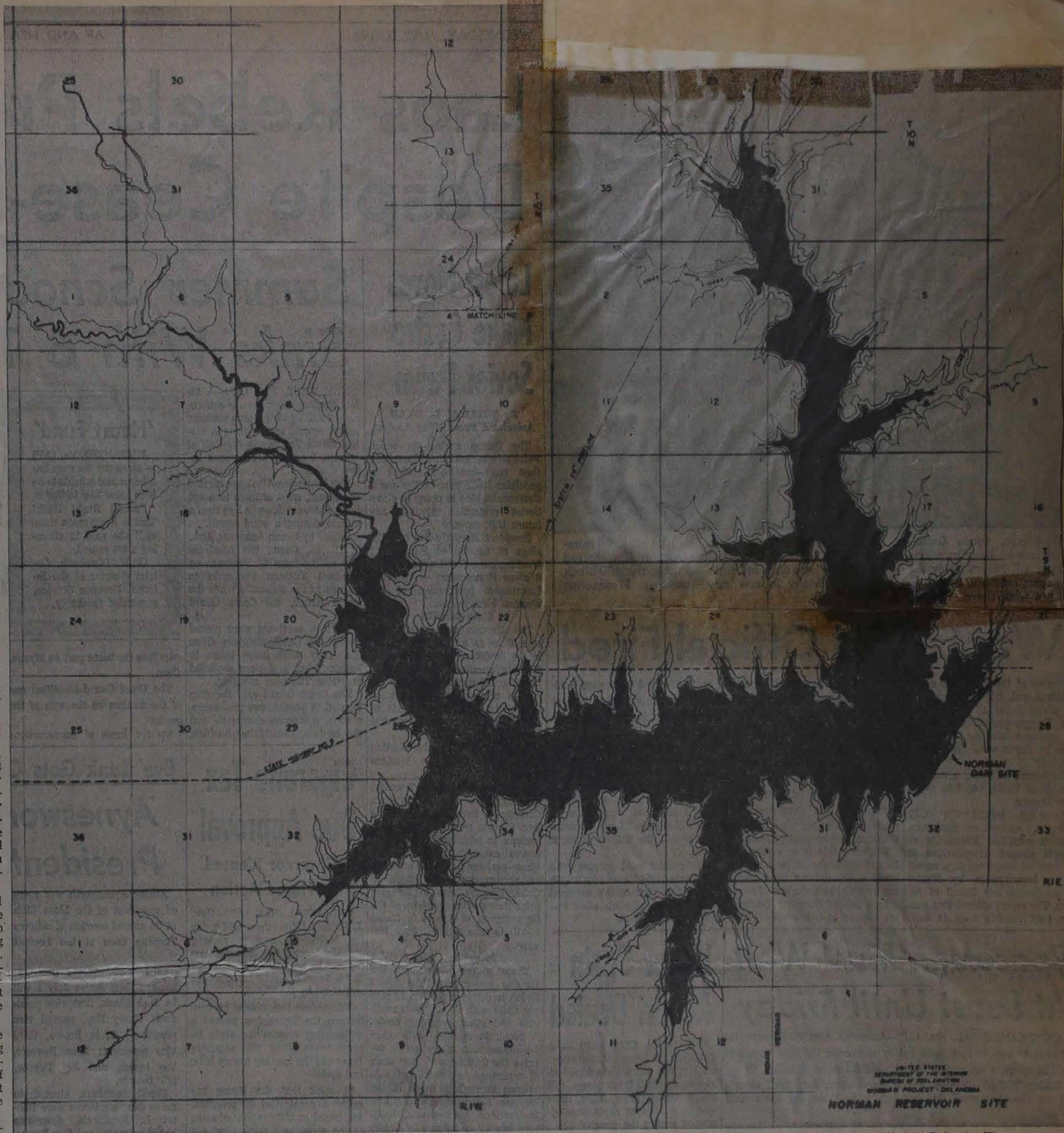
M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, has the answers, at least as far as the bureau's recommendations go, and they are fairly certain to be followed.

Land in the reservoir area is described mainly by elevations. The normal, water-supply pool will stand at an elevation of 1,032 to 1,039 feet. Draw an imaginary line at 1,039 feet around the perimeter of the reservoir (contour line 1039). It will follow an irregular, jagged course, outlining the small and large tributaries and (when you get back to where you started) the shape of the lake itself.

The government will buy all land up to elevation 1042.3, a little more than three feet higher than the normal water line, squaring off its purchases in 10-acre tracts. This is figured to be the five-year flood stage; the water theoretically would reach this point on an average of once every five years.

(The square blocks will save the bureau's attorneys from writing such legal descriptions as "Beginning at a point two feet north of the old stump, thence northeast in a sort of squiggly line to the old gray boulder," etc.)

Beyond owning all of the immediate shore front, the government will retain an easement back to elevation 1064.5, the limit of the maximum water surface area. No structures for habitation will be allowed in this zone, although property owners will be allowed to maintain boat houses, docks, ramps and other such facilities. The chances are that the water will never reach this elevation,



THE EXTENT OF IT—The dark area will be the normal, water-supply level of the Norman Reservoir, with the shore line at an elevation of 1,039 feet. The two lines outside the solid area mark the top of the flood-control pool (elevation

1,049.4 feet) and the maximum water surface area (1,064.5 feet). The government will own all of the land back to 1,042.3 feet and will retain an easement, upon which no habitable dwellings will be allowed, to the outermost line.

but Barclay points out that "if we ever should have another Noah's flood, we don't want a lot of people drowned."

The distance of this contour line from the water will vary consider-

ably with the terrain, of course. On a steep bluff the horizontal distance between elevations 1039 and 1064.5 would be only a few feet; on gently sloping land it could be a mile. In general,

over most of the lake front, the easement will cover from less than 200 to about 1,000 feet.

Tentative plans call for a sizeable area along the northwest arm of the reservoir to be set

aside as a game refuge, under the management of the state Wildlife Conservation Commission. Other suitable locations along the shore will be developed as campgrounds and picnic sites, probably under

the direction of the state Planning and Resources Board. The lake itself may be "zoned," with certain areas reserved for fishing and others for boating and water skiing.

These varying recreational uses

how they may be controlled and the roles of the federal government, state and private developers will be explored in the next article of this series.

(One of a Series of Public Announcements Contributed By Interested Citizens and Taxpayers)

Norman Has "Staked Its Claim" to the Little River Reservoir Let's "Prove It Up" Tomorrow at the Polls!

Norman was founded by far-sighted men and women who staked a claim to a new life here in 1889. These pioneers were looking to the future and liked what they saw — a fertile, verdant valley, rolling hills and they knew the water was good!

They envisioned the progressive, wholesome city Norman is today — and took immediate steps to build what they wanted. Trees had to be planted, schools and churches organized, local government perfected, sidewalks laid, streets paved, a municipal waterworks constructed — all of these things we enjoy today are ours because progressive men and women took the right steps at the right time with unerring good judgment. We must be faithful to this heritage and look ahead now.

This spirit received a major challenge before the end of the second year when Norman asked to have the University of Oklahoma located here. Bidding was keen, and the requirements were stiff. But Norman furnished a 40-acre site purchased by popular subscription; and Cleveland County voted \$10,000 in bonds before the deadline date.

We are now faced with probably the second most important decision in Norman's history — and by far the most pressing one within the foreseeable future — approval of the Little River Reservoir. Let's go to the polls Tuesday and show the same foresight displayed by our forefathers, and insure our most valuable asset — an adequate supply of good water for NOW and later. Vote "YES" on both propositions.

Answers to Three Vital Questions

① QUESTION: Why do we need to vote now to construct the Little River Reservoir? Can't we delay a decision for five or ten years?

ANSWER: The Bureau of Reclamation, acting on behalf of Norman, Midwest City and Del City, now holds the water rights on the Little River Reservoir area. If the three cities do not approve the proposal to build the lake, the Bureau of Reclamation will release the first priority water rights we now hold, and Oklahoma City, which filed for them shortly after they were reserved by the Bureau, will pick them up and the only surface water site in this area will be gone forever.

② QUESTION: Is Norman being asked to vote bonds to pay its share of the cost of the Little River Reservoir?

ANSWER: Absolutely NOT! Norman's share of the cost of the reservoir will be paid, first, out of revenue from the sale of the water by the City of Norman, over a period of 50 years, at the low interest rate of not to exceed 2.75%

with minimum payments due the first ten years of the 50-year term. Second, if water revenues fall short in any year to meet the payments, Norman would levy a small tax, probably one mill, to raise the extra funds needed. This one mill would cost the taxpayer \$1.00 on each \$1,000 of assessed valuation, over and above the homestead exemption. In other words, the cost will be paid principally by water users over a period of 50 years, as used. This is the fairest and most liberal financing imaginable.

③ QUESTION: We note that Oklahoma City has recently increased its water rates to finance water from the Lake Atoka. Won't this happen in Norman?

ANSWER: City Manager Joe Parris has said he is confident water rates will not need to be increased. In fact, he believes that some rates can be LOWERED when abundant water is available from the Little River Reservoir. This will be a boon to all home owners—to have more water for the same cost, or savings on present consumption. Attractive, and competitive rates can also be offered Norman industries that will help build payrolls and provide more and better-paying jobs.

VOTE "YES" TUESDAY TO GUARANTEE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF GOOD WATER!

Make Certain That You and All
of Norman Will Have a Plentiful Supply
of Good Water Now and for Years to Come!

Vote "YES"

ON BOTH PROPOSITIONS

TUESDAY, MAY 23rd

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 1

FOR PROPOSITION NO. 2

(The Federal government requires a "YES"
vote on BOTH propositions)

This is a long-range project to assure good water in abundance for Norman as soon as the lake can be completed. It will benefit every citizen, every business and every institution in our city. Remember, Norman's share of the cost will be nominal---and a large surface supply is the ONLY dependable source of water for a growing city.

Mayor's Citizens Committee

Raymond Symcox, Chairman
Finance and Budget Committee

Bill Sneed, Chairman
Speakers Bureau

Walter Kraft, Chairman
Technical Information Committee

J. H. (Jack) Patten, Chairman
Publicity Committee—

Mrs. James E. Gordon, Newspapers

Mrs. M. H. Merrill, Radio

Robert L. Pendarvis, Direct Mail

Now Then, What About Size of Reservoir, Its Capacity?

4/30/61

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth in a series of articles on the proposed Norman Reservoir that will appear periodically in The Transcript. Earlier stories dealt with the present ground-water supply; today's explains physical details of the lake. Future articles will go into recreational benefits, costs of the project and methods of payment.)

By JACK BAGBY

Now then, about this Norman Reservoir: It's been talked about for years, but exactly where, what and how big will it be? How much water

will it hold, and how long will it last?

The answers to these questions have been pinned down by the Bureau of Reclamation, and here is what the plans specify:

The northeast end of the dam across the Little River will be less than 1,000 feet south of the Little Axe School, which is 12 miles east of Norman — or 12 1/4 miles east of U.S. 77, if you prefer to figure that way.

The dam itself, 7,420 feet or about 1.4 miles long, will extend southwest from the point near the school, across the Little River to the hills on the far side of the

valley. At the point it crosses the river the crest of the dam will be 102 feet above the stream bed.

The structure, in the language of bureau engineers, will be a "rolled earth fill" dam 40 feet wide at the crest and nearly 800 feet thick at the widest part of the base. It will contain approximately 2,800,000 cubic yards of earth.

M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the bureau, explained that the huge embankment will be built up with layers of specially sampled and tested earth about eight inches thick. Each layer will spread on, smoothed, moistened and then

compacted with 50-ton rollers before the next layer is applied.

"You can hardly drive a pick into it when we get through," he added.

The upstream face of the dam will be protected by riprap consisting of a 12-inch blanket of crushed rock overlaid with a blanket of heavy stone — granite or limestone — about two feet thick. The other side of the dam will be sodded.

State Highway 9, which now crosses several small valleys that will be inundated, will be changed to follow the top of the dam. Some \$850,000 for relocating

the highway in the dam area is included in the estimated \$18 million cost of construction.

A few months before construction of the dam is completed, the stream — which will have been diverted during the building — will be turned back into its channel. The amount of time the lake will take to fill depends on weather conditions and could vary considerably, Barclay said.

"With average stream flow — around 60,000 acre feet a year — it would take about two years," he said. "There have been some years — 1957, for example — when it would have filled in one

year or less, even if it were clear empty. If we hit a sustained dry spell, it could take several years."

As an example of the extreme variations of the Little River, he pointed to 1938, when only 2,400 acre feet were measured, and 1939, when nearly 119,000 acre feet flowed down the stream. In 1957 the amount was 149,000 acre feet.

An acre foot — the amount necessary to cover one acre of land one foot deep — contains 325,828 gallons.

Only 10,000 acre feet are needed in the lake before delivery of

water can begin, he added.

Once it reaches its normal, water-supply level, the lake will contain 119,567 acre feet of water, or 38,958,276,476 gallons, and have a surface area of 6,070 acres. But it will be capable of holding much more during flood seasons.

(By comparison, Lakes Hefner and Overholser in Oklahoma City together cover from 4,000 to 5,000 acres, Lake Murray about 6,000.)

At the top of the flood-control pool the Norman Reservoir would hold 196,215 acre feet and cover 8,788 acres. Its maximum storage ("That would be in case of the

kind of flood that Noah got," Barclay said) would be 364,669 acre feet spread over 13,755 acres.

Even the normal pool of 119,567 acre feet is a lot of water, in anybody's language. By comparison, engineer C. H. Guernsey estimates the current annual withdrawals of ground water by Norman, Midwest City, Del City and Tinker Air Force Base at 9,000 acre feet. All the water currently being taken from the Garber-Wellington sands east of a line between Norman and Oklahoma City is estimated at 17,000 acre feet a year. This includes water being

(See Page 5, Column 3)

THE NORMAN TRANSCRIPT

1889-1961

Norman's Community Paper For Over 70 Years

Hearings Set On Dam Funds

2 Subcommittees To Hear Cooksey

Harold Cooksey, secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, will testify before two congressional subcommittees on behalf of the first appropriation for the Norman Reservoir project the week of June 12.

Rep. John Jarman, 5th district congressman from Oklahoma, announced the scheduling of the hearings in a telephone call to The Norman Transcript this afternoon.

Jarman said Cooksey will testify on Tuesday afternoon, June 13, before Rep. Mike Kirwan's subcommittee on the Department of Interior and related agencies and on Thursday morning, June 15, before Sen. Carl Hayden's subcommittee on the Department of Interior and related agencies.

The appropriation subcommittees are studying budget requests for the Interior Department made by former President Eisenhower. The Eisenhower budget, presented Jan. 16, included a \$900,000 appropriation to begin construction of reservoir.

May 23 Favored

Early Vote Asked On Lake Project

Norman residents may vote May 23 on approval of a contract with the federal government for construction of the Norman Reservoir east of the city.

That was the date unofficially projected Saturday afternoon after a meeting of incoming city commissioners, Midwest City and Del City officials with officers of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District.

The district and the Bureau of Reclamation, represented at the meeting by area engineer M. G. Barclay, called upon the three cities to vote by early in June upon the contract for the repayment to the federal government of their share of the approximately \$18 million cost of the dam on the Little River, its reservoir, pipelines and pumping stations.

Norman representatives suggested the May 23 date because the following Tuesday, May 30, is a holiday and much of the population of the city will be gone on the Tuesday after that, which

falls after the ending of the spring term at the University.

Midwest City and Del City may hold their elections at the same time or may delay another two to three weeks.

The group agreed that numerous details must be worked out, both before and after the election. Final estimated costs of the project, including the amount to be repaid by the project cities, will not be available from the Reclamation Bureau for about two more weeks. A decision on whether the cities will construct jointly a central filtration plant or each build its own plant may be postponed until after the election.

But this much already is clear about the proposed contract upon which voters will be required to make a decision:

Norman will receive 43.8 per cent of the water from the reservoir and must repay to the federal government, over a 50-year period, 43.8 per cent of the reimbursement. (See Page 4, Column 9)

Early Election On Lake Pact Asked of City

(Continued from Page 1)

burseable costs of the dam and reservoir. This probably will amount to about \$6 million.

(Barclay said the estimates being prepared show the total cost of the project will be around \$1 million less than was first figured. But because of the withdrawal from the project of Tinker Air Force Base, the cost to the cities will be about the same.)

Choice of Methods

Norman can use any or all of four different methods of financing the repayment, or it could change its method from year to year. It can:

1. Vote a 30-year bond issue, either of revenue bonds (retired by the sale of water) or general obligation bonds.
2. Pledge its water revenue to the repayment.
3. Levy an assessment against property for retirement of the debt.
4. Use any other source of revenue available or a combination of any sources.

Approval of the contract by voters on May 23 would obligate Norman to the repayment of its share of the debt and authorize

What About Size of Reservoir, Its Capacity?

(Continued from Page 1)

pumped by the University, Central State Hospital, Moore and all other public and private users.

By 1965 this amount is expected to reach 24,000 acre feet a year and by 1980, 35,000 acre feet.

But figures on the lake's capacity also can be misleading. Obviously the pool cannot be drained dry and refilled each year; the annual inflow must more than equal the yield.

Barclay figures the usable yield will amount to about 40 per cent of the inflow. Another 32 per cent

will go over the spillway, 25 per cent will be lost through evaporation and 3 per cent to seepage.

This means that if 60,000 acre feet of water a year enters the reservoir, 24,000 can be utilized. 19,200 will go on downstream, 15,000 will evaporate and 1,800 will seep into the ground. Obviously—as Guernsey, John Rea and every other engineer who has studied the reservoir have pointed out—the present well system sooner or later will have to be used to supplement the reservoir or supply peak demands.

Over the years some storage space also will be lost because of sedimentation — the steady dumping of topsoil into the lake from streams above. The bureau has figured that, too, on the basis of present sedimentation, but there is considerable evidence that the amount of sedimentation will decrease as time goes by.

After 50 years of sedimentation, the bureau estimates, the capacity of the water supply pool will have been lowered by some 1,000 acre feet to 102,892. After 100 years of use the capacity would be 86,567, a total loss of 35,000 acre feet.

But again — this is based on the present sedimentation rate. In its 1954 report the bureau noted:

"A significant reduction in the present rate of sedimentation may be anticipated on the basis of continued prosecution of current programs of the Department of Agriculture which are directed primarily toward institution of land-treatment and erosion-control measures in the tributary watershed. . . . It is believed reasonable to assume that the agricultural program will prolong the total useful life of the reservoir. "The reduction of reservoir inflow that may be anticipated as

the result of land-treatment measures is considered insignificant in comparison with the beneficial effects of the lowered rate of reservoir sedimentation." Last summer property owners north of the dam site formed the Upper Little River Watershed Association with the primary purpose of building just such erosion-control dams as the bureau anticipated.

In other words, the lake — if Norman, Midwest City and Del City voters approve contracts necessary for its construction — will be around a long, long time. (Next: The recreational aspects)

Reservoir Pact Studied

By JACK BAGBY

Officials of the three cities that will be involved in construction of the Norman Reservoir got their first look Saturday at the proposed contract with the federal government for repayment of their share of the costs of the Little River project.

In a 3 1/2-hour session with Bureau of Reclamation officials, representatives of Norman, Midwest City and Del City studied the 18-page document that sets forth the procedure under which the cities will repay approximately \$12 million of the \$18 million total cost

of pipelines necessary to take the water to the cities. Norman is scheduled to receive 43.8 per cent of the water, Midwest City 40.4 per cent and Del City 15.8 per cent.

Each of the three cities must approve, by a vote of the people, its contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for payment of its share of the cost. The district is the agency that would contract with the federal government for the total annual payments.

In Norman, this election tentatively is set for May 23, with the

Reservoir Contract Studied by Officials

(Continued from Page 1)

ests have given their approval by then.

Presenting the contract for study Saturday were Fred Gray, field solicitor for the Department of Interior; Harold Aldrich, regional supervisor of operations and maintenance, Bureau of Reclamation, both of Amarillo, Tex.; M. G. Barclay, bureau area engineer, and his assistant, Norman Flagg, both of Oklahoma City.

Norman officials were Mayor-elect Earl Sneed, Commissioner Dr. John G. Hemphill, Commissioners-elect John Elliott and William H. Mattoon, City Manager Joe Parris, City Attorney John M. (Jack) Luttrell, Sen. Robert L. Bailey, Sam Whitlock, attorney for the conservancy district; Harold S. Cooksey, secretary of the district, and John F. Malone, Chamber of Commerce manager.

From Midwest City were City Manager Bob Quinlan; City Engineer Mike Withrow and Qscar Rose, a member of the district

Cline, New Assistant

Norman

What About Size of Reservoir, Its Capacity?

(Continued from Page 1)

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6-2-61

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4/16/61

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(See Page 4, Column 9)

Norman 6-27-61

Fate of Dam Project Hangs on Elections

6-19-61

The fate of the Norman Reservoir will hang on the vote Tuesday of residents of Midwest City and Del City.

Polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. in both cities. All registered voters will be eligible to cast ballots on approval of their city's contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for repayment of their respective shares of the cost of the reservoir, over a 50-year period.

Taxpaying voters will decide the issue of authorizing a small mill levy in any year in which water revenue is insufficient to meet the annual payment.

Norman voters on May 23 approved both issues by an overwhelming margin. Appropria-

tions committees of the U. S. Senate and House last week considered (and raised no objections to) a \$900,000 appropriation to start work on the \$18 million project during the 1961-62 fiscal year.

The two issues upon which the Oklahoma County cities will vote must be approved by all three of the project cities before the contract of any of them becomes valid. If all votes are favorable and the appropriation is authorized, the conservancy district will sign a repayment contract with the federal government, and work is expected to begin in the spring.

The three cities are scheduled to repay about \$12 million of the total cost over 50 years, while the government will pay the other \$6 million.

Mineral Rights in Lake Area Raise Questions ⁵⁻⁸⁻⁶¹

By JACK BAGBY

Owners of mineral rights in the area of the proposed Norman Reservoir on the Little River have nothing to fear from the government, Bureau of Reclamation officials said today.

The procedure of obtaining—or leaving—oil and gas rights when land is acquired for the reservoir was outlined by M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the bureau, at a meeting here last week. His assistant, Norman Flaigg, elaborated today.

The question had been raised by several owners of mineral rights in the area.

"Generally, it's the policy of the government to leave the mineral rights with whoever holds them," Barclay said. "Any production of oil and

gas is subordinate to the surface rights—that is, it cannot interfere with the primary purpose of the reservoir. But if the mineral owners have to go to extra expense to produce the minerals, the government stands the extra cost."

"Where it is feasible to whipstock (drill directionally) for oil, we leave the mineral rights with the owner," Flaigg said. "But you can only whipstock so far. Out in the middle of the lake, we either acquire the minerals outright or subordinate them."

In either case the property owner is paid more than he would be for surface rights alone. The price is arrived at through negotiations between the owner and oil-leasing experts qualified to know the

value of the minerals, he said.

Only two producing wells now exist in the reservoir area, and these will be mounded to place them well above the average flood stage of the reservoir, Flaigg said. Gathering lines will be modified so that neither the wells nor the lake will be affected, and ramps will be constructed for the use of trucks servicing the wells, he added.

"Naturally, we would like to hold the number of this kind of operation to a minimum," Barclay said, "and for that reason we are trying to get into operation soon enough that we can begin negotiating for mineral rights where we need them. But we can't spend a penny in the area until a repayment contract is signed by the government and the mas-

ter conservancy district."

"Sometimes we have to acquire the minerals rights at the dam site itself so that mining of minerals under the dam won't affect the structure itself," he added, "but we don't believe that will be necessary here."

Officials of the Bureau of Mines made a study several years ago of oil rights and leases and the possibility of future oil play in the reservoir area, then made a reappraisal and furnished estimates a few months ago of the cost of acquiring rights in the area, Barclay said.

"And only once that I can recall have we underestimated the costs," he added. "We generally hit it pretty close."

Fred Gray, field solicitor for

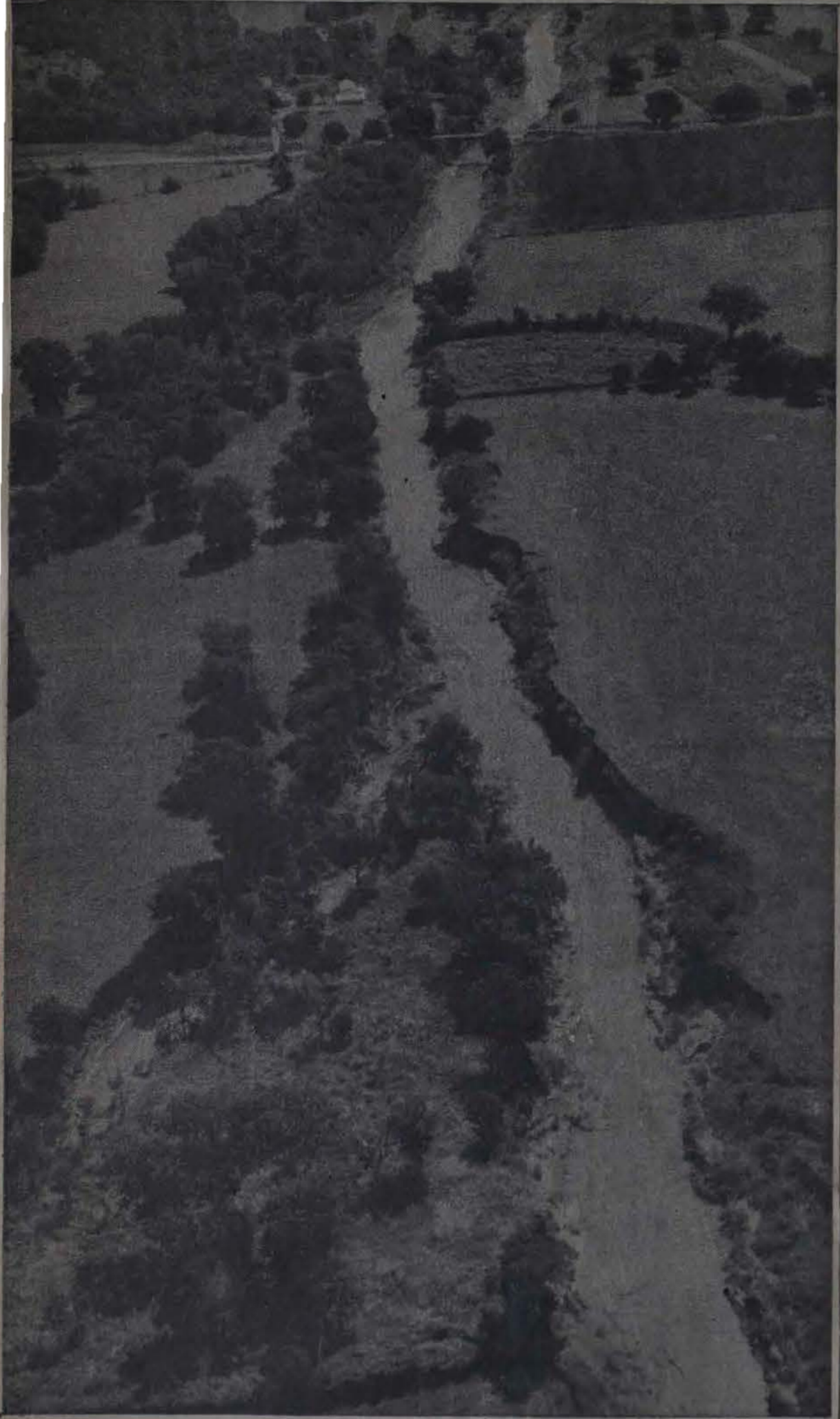
the Department of the Interior, also had a comment on the oil picture.

"We are buying sites every day that are filled with wells," he said, "and we have had a lot of firm experience with all types of problems. I'd say about 10 cases a day of land acquisitions cross my desk. Our estimates on this (the Norman) reservoir are based on present costs of other projects, but we also recognize that costs vary from project to project and even from lease to lease. The appraisals will be made by experts in their field and the actual prices arrived at by negotiations with the property and mineral owners."

(The bureau's procedure for acquiring surface rights will be outlined in a later article.)

4/24/61

John Q., Participation in Reservoir Project Now Up to You



(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of a series of articles intended to explore all phases of the proposed Norman Reservoir. The first few instalments will examine the extent and adequacy of the present ground-water supply. Future articles will detail the benefits and costs of the lake and how the costs may be paid.)

By JACK BAGBY
Now it's all up to John Q. Public.
For 25 years — and especially for the last 10 — the experts, the authorities, big and little, have put in literally millions of man-hours of study and work on the Norman Reservoir, or Little River Dam.

They've ranged from local committees to the U.S. Congress.
But the final decision belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Voter in Norman, Midwest City and Del City. To you and me. We're the people who pay the bills.
It's up to us to decide whether we need and want the project enough to pay our share of the cost. And the lake, destined to be one of the 10 largest in Oklahoma, will not be a giveaway package.
Final detailed estimates of the cost will be examined later in this series. For now, here's the general outline: The reservoir, not counting treatment facilities, will cost around \$18 million. Uncle

Sam will put up all the cash, and the three project cities will agree to repay, beginning about 1965, some \$12 million over a 50-year period. They also will build their own treatment facilities.
Whether to approve that repayment is the basic question the voters of the three cities will be asked to decide in the next few weeks — in Norman probably on May 23. Sure, a lot of other aspects are wrapped up in the legal language of the official documents, the most important being HOW this money will be raised. We'll get to those later, too.
For now, let's look at WHY the whole thing came up in the first place.

Norman, Midwest City and Del City have grown steadily since their founding — the last two almost phenomenally. Norman's population was 5,004 in 1920, 9,603 in 1930, 11,429 in 1940, 27,006 in 1950 and 33,412 in 1960.
Midwest City and Del City, both developed after 1940, numbered 10,166 and 2,504, respectively, in 1950, and 36,058 and 12,917, respectively, in 1960.
That the three cities will continue to grow, all authorities agree, although they differ in their estimates of the rate of growth.
Dr. Francis Cella of the OU Bureau of Business Research predicted in 1953 a Norman popula-

tion of 50,300 by the year 2010. Two other University professors, Dr. W. N. Peach and George W. Reid, forecast 95,000 by the year 2000 and 108,000 by 2010.
Consulting engineer C. H. Guernsey, in a 1959 feasibility report on the lake project, struck a median between the two, predicting some 46,000 by 1970, 52,000 by 1980, 58,000 by 1990, 64,000 by 2000 and 69,800 by 2010.
The most recent report, by the Rea Engineering Co., forecasts population on the basis of past and expected future water usage. For Norman, it shows 44,000 in 1970 and 100,000 by 2010.
The population of the other ci-

Residents, Officials Air Lindsey Project ⁶⁻¹⁶⁻⁶¹

About 20 owners of property on or near Lindsey Street fired questions for an hour about drainage, street widths and curbs and gutters at engineers and city officials Thursday afternoon.
When the barrage had lifted, shows of hands brought out these expressions of opinion from those represented:
No one wants sidewalks. Only three or four would like to see Lindsey widened. One or two believe larger underground storm sewers should be provided before other improvements are made. But the majority are willing to pay for curbs and gutters along a 30-foot street.
The meeting was called in an effort to determine the sentiments of residents along the street before the City Commission creates an improvement district for the installation of curbs and gutters from Elm Avenue to Berry Road and along a few blocks of privately owned property east of Jenkins Avenue.
City Manager Joe Parris ex-

plained to the group that the state Highway Department is willing to overlay the street with a one-inch surface of asphaltic concrete on whatever width base is prepared by the city and property owners. The present paving width on Lindsey, west of Elm, averages about 22 feet.
If property owners agreed to installing curbs and gutters, he said, the City Commission will set up the district "at the earliest date" (possibly at a special meeting Tuesday), and the work will be done in time for the state to resurface the street before school starts in the fall.
Parris advised against creating a 36-foot, three-lane street of the size that runs through the University. OU officials, he said, "are not too happy with this width" because the middle lane serves only to confuse motorists and create a hazard. He recommended making the street at least 44 feet if it were widened at all, but pointed out that a 30-foot street is the minimum.
(See Page 3, Column 5)

Lindsey Street Residents Give Project Views ⁶⁻¹⁶⁻⁶¹

(Continued from Page 1)
foot bridge west of Pickard Avenue would have to be rebuilt in this case, adding considerably to the expense.
Consulting Engineer Don Clark said the cost of 2-foot, 8 inch concrete curbs and gutters would be about \$1.75 or \$1.80 a running foot, with the assessment area

'White Way' Job To Start July 1 ⁶⁻¹⁶⁻⁶¹

Installation of a "white way" lighting system along West Main Street is expected to start about July 1, Manager J. L. Farmer of the Norman division of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. said today.
Start of the project has awaited the delivery of the mercury-vapor lighting equipment, he said. In the meantime the firm is giving a fresh coat of aluminium paint to other steel light poles in the city "so they will match the shiny new ones."
Erection of the lights from Park Drive to Interstate 35 is

Cooksey Predicts Dam Fund Okay ⁶⁻¹⁴⁻⁶¹

Approval of a \$900,000 appropriation to begin construction of the Norman Reservoir was predicted today by Harold S. Cooksey, Norman, after he completed testimony in Washington before a Senate subcommittee.
Cooksey, secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, called D. H. Grisso, district president, to report that his testimony was favorably received by the subcommittee on the Interior Department and related agencies. No objections or comments critical of the project were voiced, he said, and "everything is fine."
On Tuesday Cooksey appeared before the corresponding committee of the House and met a similar reception.

He predicted the appropriation will be approved. Midwest City and Del City still must ratify their participation in the project at an election next Tuesday. Norman voters already have approved their part in the project by a margin of about 13 to 1.
Cooksey, who also is president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, was introduced to the Senate committee by Sen. Mike Monroney. In his appearance before the House group he was assisted by Rep. John Jarman.
The Norman man told both groups that the three project cities exceed 82,000 in population and constitute the fastest growing area in Oklahoma. He pointed out that the governing bodies

of the three cities have approved proposed repayment contracts with the conservancy district and that Norman voters accepted the action by a 93.6 per cent vote on May 23.
"We feel confident of the results" of the vote in the other two cities, he added. "By these activities we believe our people have substantially demonstrated their desire and their full realization of the need for the Norman project. In their name, we therefore pray that you will make it possible to begin construction at the earliest possible date."
The \$900,000 has been requested by the Bureau of Reclamation, was part of former President Eisenhower's proposed budget and was retained in Pres-

ident Kennedy's budget.
If the appropriation is approved, the purchase of land at and near the damsite on the Little River, 12 miles east of Norman, is expected to start this fall. Actual construction will get under way in the spring, under present Bureau of Reclamation plans.
Total cost of the project is estimated at \$18 million, of which the project cities will repay about \$12 million over a 50-year period. The government will bear the rest of the cost for flood control, fish and wildlife benefits and recreational facilities.
Cooksey was to leave Washington today and spend about a week vacationing in Wisconsin before returning to Norman.

City Budget, Paving Top Council Agenda ⁶⁻²⁷⁻⁶¹

Creation of an improvement district for paving some 25 blocks of streets and adoption of a 1961-62 budget are top items to be considered at tonight's meeting of the City Commission.
The session is set for 8 p.m. at City Hall.
The proposed improvement district, as outlined last week, calls for 26-foot portland cement streets, curbs and gutters along large parts of South Pickard Avenue and Iowa and Haddock streets. It also provides for curbs and gutters along several blocks of Lindsey Street.
But at the commissioners' breakfast briefing session this morning, it was indicated that some changes in the make-up of the district might still be made.
City Manager Joe Parris reported that a petition signed by 65 per cent of the property own-

ers from the district, was received Monday. He also said that some Pickard Avenue property owners still feel the paving should include the block between Madison and Lindsey streets.
City department heads also attended the breakfast meeting, and a large part of the discussion was on the record budget proposed by Parris. The budget, calling for expenditures of \$1,264,526.35, is expected to get tentative approval tonight.
Among its provisions are a 40-hour week for all city employees but firemen and policemen; Blue Cross-Blue Shield payments by the city for its employees; a raise in starting salaries for employees of the sanitation, street, park and water and sewer departments, and increased equipment purchases.
Brought up by Commissioner Dr. J. G. Hemphill was a pro-

Cooksey, Jarman Ask Dam Funds Approval ⁶⁻¹⁴⁻⁶¹

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. John Jarman, D-Okla., and Harold S. Cooksey, president of Central Oklahoma Waters Users Association, Tuesday asked a House appropriations subcommittee to approve \$900,000 for the Norman project in Oklahoma in the year starting July 1.
This is the amount President Kennedy has budgeted for the Interior Department project to provide flood control on the Little River and to provide for water for Norman, Del City and Midwest City.

Cooksey, whose home is Norman, told the subcommittee that people of the area "have substantially demonstrated their desire and their full realization of the need for the Norman project."
(Norman voters on May 23 overwhelmingly approved that city's participation in the project, and Midwest City and Del City residents are to vote on the proposition next Tuesday.)
He recounted steps taken in Oklahoma to further the project. Only last April, he said, the state Supreme Court upheld organization of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District which was formed in 1959 and immediately challenged in the courts.
Cooksey will appear Thursday morning before a Senate subcommittee studying the same budget request.

Paving Study Due Tuesday ⁶⁻¹⁹⁻⁶¹
The sentiments of property

Conservancy District Bill Kindles Dispute
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—A disagreement over representation on the Board of Directors of the Fort Cobb Reservoir Master Con-

Cooksey Seeks Funds for Dam ⁶⁻¹³⁻⁶¹

Cooksey Predicts Dam Fund Okay

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Cooksey Seeks Funds for Dam

Harold S. Cooksey, Norman, was to testify this afternoon in Washington before a House subcommittee studying a \$900,000 appropriation that would begin construction of the Norman Reservoir.

Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, was to appear before Rep. Mike Kirwan's subcommittee on the Department of the Interior and related agencies.

On Thursday morning Cooksey is scheduled to meet with the corresponding committee of the Senate, headed by Sen. Carl Hayden.

If the budget request is approved, and Midwest City and Del City voters approve their repayment contracts with the federal government at an election next Tuesday, work on the \$18 million dam and reservoir is expected to start by spring.

Film Industry Forum Planned

The producers and cast of a motion picture now being filmed in Norman are expected to be on hand Friday noon for a special Chamber of Commerce forum at the Lockett Hotel.

The forum, which will be open to Chamber members and their guests, will feature a discussion of the possibilities of motion pictures as a future industry in Norman.

John F. Malone, Chamber manager, said co-producers Ned Hockman, Joe Burke and Dwight Swain are scheduled to be present for the discussion. Beverly Garland and Skip Homeier, the stars of the picture "Brink of Love," also are expected to attend.

Malone said the forum has been set up primarily for the information it will provide. It will give those present a chance to inquire about such things as the progress the production is making, the problems the company has run into while making the film and the

Small Dams Can Aid Lake, Cooksey Says

A proposed watershed protection project above the Norman Reservoir "should tie in very nicely with the lake," Harold S. Cooksey said Monday.

The 50 detention dams which would be built on several tributaries of the Little River, he said, "would lessen siltation and keep the lake clear, giving us better water."

Cooksey is secretary of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association.

An amended application seeking federal aid on the protection project was submitted last week by the Cleveland County Soil and Water Conservation District. Watershed area in the project would be 77,500 acres, including 7,500 acres of bottomland.

Size of the proposed project was roughly doubled. County Soil Conservationist Jesse Murrell has pointed out that the enlargement should give the application higher priority in Washington.

"The big thing about this project," said Cooksey, "is, of course, that it would protect the land above the reservoir from flooding and erosion. But it also would help lengthen the life of the reservoir some."

Even without the proposed conservation practices, however, the lake is expected to have a water-supply capacity of about 85,000 acre feet in 100 years. Its original capacity will be 119,000 acre feet.

The 50 pools which would be created by the detention dams would have to be primarily for flood control and could not retain much water, Cooksey pointed out, as the reservoir project has senior water rights on the Little River.

"But if this is handled right," he said, "it could be a very fine project."

Residents G Of Street

(Continued from Page 1)

be retained where they meet city specifications but replaced where they are substandard.

The Pickard project was deliberately halted short of Lindsey, they said, to keep property owners on that street from being assessed both for the Pickard paving and the Lindsey curbs and gutters. But it will be extended to Lindsey or be-

U.S. To Bear Cost of Lake Recreation, Fish, Wildlife

(Continued from Page 1)

goal of building small upstream retention dams for the control of erosion and turbidity.

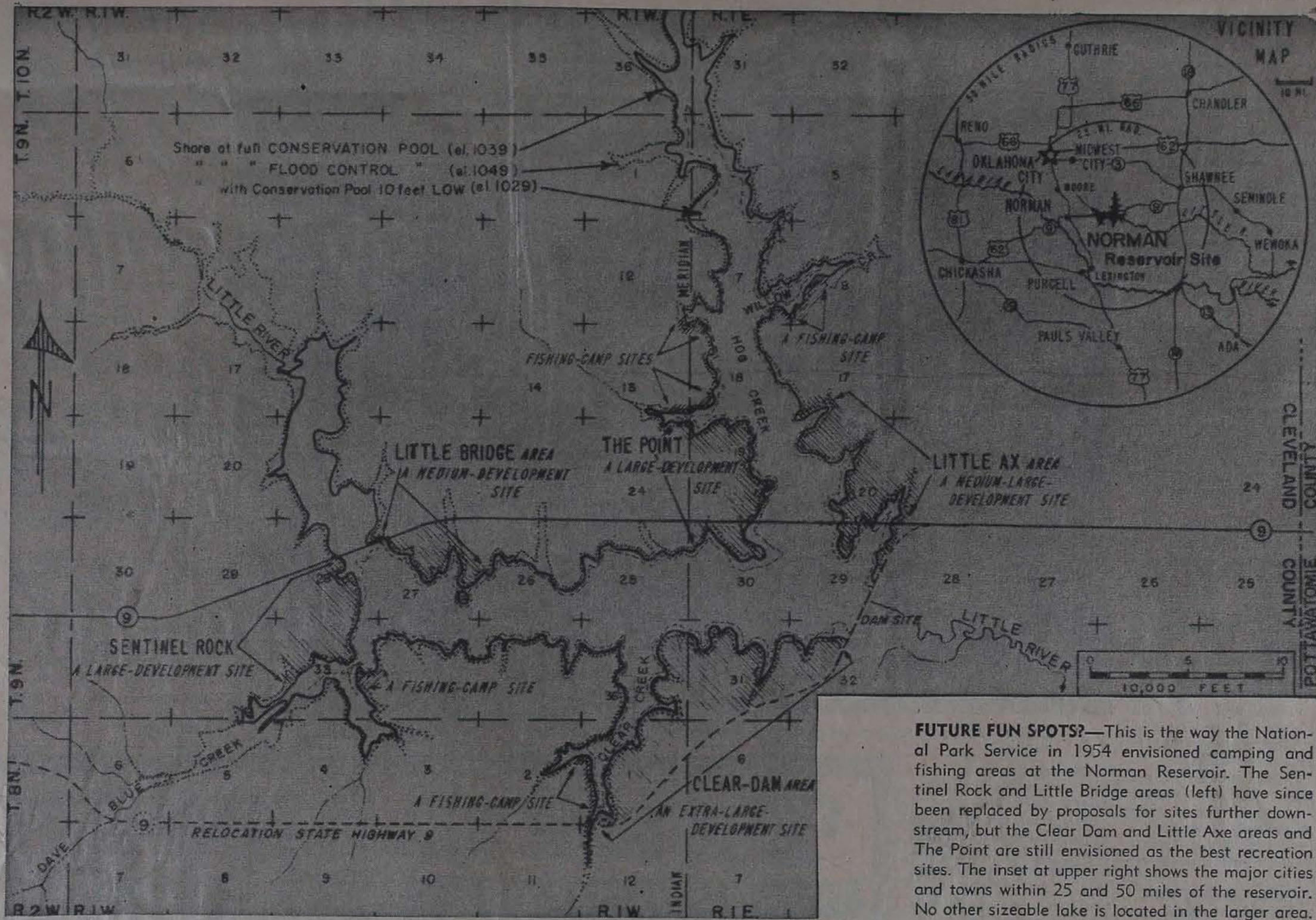
But, even with less-than-ideal conditions expected, the 1954 report predicted the "Norman Reservoir will be heavily utilized.... Fishing pressure, based upon license-sale trends, will be more than double. There will be need for additional fishing waters, and this reservoir, located near the expanding populations, will partially fulfill this need." The average utilization during the early years of the lake is estimated at 50,000 fisherman days a year.

The agency says 19 species of fish, including catfish and sunfish, have been identified in the Little River. These will provide the initial stocking, the report adds, in addition to whatever species the state Wildlife Conservation Commission may stock, "probably crappies, largemouth bass, yellow walleye and white bass."

The lake will eliminate about 6,000 acres of wildlife habitat, the report notes, and heavy recreational use will prevent maximum use by wildlife. But "improved aquatic life and edge effects of the reservoir will double mink populations and will create a fair muskrat habitat...."

"(The) reservoir will be a fair waterfowl area which ducks will use for spring and fall migrations and for wintering.... Waterfowl species expected... are teal, baldpate, gadwall, mallard, pintail, redhead, scaup, canvasback, merganser, Canada goose, white-fronted goose, snow goose and blue goose. This sector of Oklahoma is deficient in waterfowl-hunting areas, and Norman Reservoir will be heavily hunted. An estimated waterfowl use of about 900,000 duck-days annually is expected."

Elimination of much of the present habitat of quail, doves, squirrels, raccoons and rabbits may be largely compensated for by another development that has taken place since the 1954



FUTURE FUN SPOTS?—This is the way the National Park Service in 1954 envisioned camping and fishing areas at the Norman Reservoir. The Sentinel Rock and Little Bridge areas (left) have since been replaced by proposals for sites further downstream, but the Clear Dam and Little Axe areas and The Point are still envisioned as the best recreation sites. The inset at upper right shows the major cities and towns within 25 and 50 miles of the reservoir. No other sizeable lake is located in the larger area.

report was made. In a recent recommendation, the Fish and Wildlife Service urged that a public hunting or game-management area be set aside along

the upper reaches of the Little River, beginning at a point a mile north of the present SH 9. This area may be managed by the state Wildlife Conserva-

tion Commission. Even without this provision, the 1954 report concluded that "the Norman project will create or enhance fish and wild-

life habitat. A stream fishery of low value will be replaced by a good reservoir fishery. Upland game habitat will be eliminated, but waterfowl and aqua-

tic fur-bearing animal habitat will be provided by the impoundment. Annual fishery benefits will be \$189,000 and wildlife benefits will be \$1,100 annually."

For scientists who must observe and evaluate the data gathered during today's man into space shot, telemetry signals that accurately report the information on the astronaut's physical and biological reactions, as well as performance of the space capsule, are an absolute must.

To achieve this objective, Dorsett Electronics, Inc., worked closely with McDonnell Aircraft Corp. engineers for nearly two years to design, develop, test and produce components of the capsule's telemetering system. These included: Transistorized subcarrier oscillators, reference oscillators, and power supply mixer-amplifiers. Each of these components must function perfectly to assure scientifically reliable data.

The subcarrier oscillators receive the outputs of the various measuring devices and convert them to a transmittable frequency. The reference oscillators provide a known reference point from which data fluctuations can be calculated. The power supply mixer-amplifiers supply a regulated voltage to power the oscillators and also combine and amplify the outputs of the various subcarrier oscillators; this composite signal is both recorded on an onboard tape recorder and transmitted by radio to the various ground tracking stations.

Dorsett Electronics, Inc., located in Norman, adjacent to the OU campus, is one of a small group of companies specializing in airborne telemetering equipment. More than 50 of the firm's 450 employees were actively involved in the various stages of the company's part in the Project Mercury program.

U.S. Would Pay \$3 Million on Lake for Recreation, Fish, Wildlife

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the sixth in a series of articles dealing with the proposed Norman Reservoir. Norman residents will vote, probably on May 23, on whether to approve a contract for repayment of the city's share of the cost of the lake. This article explores the views of the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Readers are requested to clip these articles for future reference.)

paying their share, a little less than \$12 million, over a period of 50 years. Of the remainder, the \$6 million-plus that the government will bear, approximately half will be for the development of recreational facilities and for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's share of the reservoir. Present proposed allocations include \$420,000 for recreation and \$2,795,000 for fish and wildlife. Of the National Park Service allocation, \$50,000 will be for land purchase and \$370,000 for basic recreational facilities. These will include spur roads to camping and picnic sites, parking areas, drinking water and sanitary units, picnic areas, over-

look developments, boat launching ramps, nominal grading for beaches, harbors and related - use areas; installation of safety features, protective fencing, tree planting and seeding for site conservation, shelters, informational signs and guards or barriers. The picnic areas would include tables, fire grates and refuse cans. Accessory facilities, which may be furnished by the state or by private operators, would include group camps, floating bathhouses and docks, concessions for the service and rental of boats and the sale of commodities to the public, fishermen's barracks and provisions

for power, light and gas. The Park Service's 1954 report on the reservoir recognizes—somewhat wistfully, it seems—that it probably will not be able to purchase all the land it would like for recreation areas. But it pinpoints five locations, with special emphasis on one, as being the best sites for large recreational developments. Of the five, the report says, the one it designates as the Clear Dam area "stands out from the viewpoint of access, usability at all expected reservoir fluctuations and functional use of the site." This is the area between the southwest end of the dam and Clear Creek, which empties into the Little

River from the south about two miles west of the dam. "Its expanse," the Park Service says, "could be restricted to several hundred acres in sections 36 (8n-1w) and 31 (8n-1e) or expanded to a thousand acres or more by full extension back to the new highway (SH 9) route, east to the dam and west to Clearbrook School." Advantages of this site on the south side of the lake are that "its harbor would be one of the best—protected, large and deep enough for extensive storage of any boats anticipated on the reservoir at all expected fluctuations; access would be good, from east or west, over the relocated highway; its gen-

eral relationship to the entire reservoir would be among the best." Directly across the lake from the dam, between the Little River and Hog Creek arms, would be The Point, with assets of "breeze exposure, central reservoir location and possibly the best natural beach conditions." Due east, on the east side of the Hog Creek branch, would be the Little Axe site. Its main advantages would be ease of access from the Shawnee area, gentle slopes, good breeze exposure and a harbor site "well located with respect to the existing and proposed highway for a marina catering to large boats."

The Park Service also had recommended two other areas to the west, one at the point where SH 9 now crosses the Little River. But M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, said the agency no longer considers these sites as the most desirable because of the possibility of occasional low water that far upstream. The park officials, however, strongly recommend that the present SH 9 be kept open to the Hog Creek arm with a bridge over the Little River branch. Recreational facilities could be administered by the master conservancy district, the three project cities or the state Planning and Resources Board. In

the case of the first two, however, fees probably would have to be charged for use of the lake, and district and city officials appear to be leaning toward letting the state manage the area as a state park. Of the \$2,795,000 allocation for fish and wildlife, only \$15,000 is for specific facilities and the rest is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's share of the construction costs of the reservoir. This government agency had a lot to say in 1954 about plans for the lake, and some of it was not overly enthusiastic. Its chief concern was over turbidity—a lack of clear water. "Turbidity will affect productivity," its report says "Section-

line roads will channel considerable amounts of sediments into the reservoir. Blackjack-post oak lands, comprising the greater part of the reservoir watershed, are on highly erosive soils which will contribute most of this turbidity." But it adds also that "the periodic turbidity expected in the early years of the reservoir should diminish with acceleration of good watershed-management practices and the establishment of aquatic vegetation." Since that report—within the last year, in fact—the Upper Little River Watershed Association has been formed with the (See Page 3, Column 2)

By JACK BAGBY
Uncle Sam plans to put up the \$18 million cost of the Norman Reservoir, with the three project cities—Norman, Midwest City and Del City—re-

Midwest City, Del City Push Reservoir Over High Hurdle

6-21-61



By JACK BAGBY

Midwest City and Del City voters Tuesday gave final approval to construction of the Norman Reservoir, endorsing the project by the same large majorities that marked Norman's election last month.

A contract for construction of the \$18 million dam and reservoir on the Little River east of Norman probably will be let about April 1, a Bureau of Reclamation official said this morning.

In Midwest City the vote on Proposition 1 carried by a margin of 13.3 to 1 and on Proposition 2 by 12.6 to 1. The margins in Del City were 10.3 to 1 and 9.2 to 1 on the two questions.

Proposition 1 approved each city's contract with the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District for repayment of that city's share of the cost over a 50-year period and pledged wat-

er revenue toward the repayment. Proposition 2 authorized the use of a limited mill levy in any year in which water revenue proves insufficient.

Although the margin of victory for the reservoir was about the same in the two Oklahoma County cities as in Norman, the total vote in both fell far below the turnout in Norman on May 23.

Midwest City approved Proposition 1 by a vote of 1,947 to 146 and No. 2 by 1,884 to 149. Del City's vote on the two questions was 612 to 59 and 597 to 65, respectively.

Proposition 1 in Norman drew 4,009 "yes" votes to 299 "no," a margin of 13.5 to 1. Proposition 2 was approved 3,519 to 308, a margin of 11 to 1.

The vote Tuesday was expected to be the last major test for the 6,070-acre lake that will extend to within five miles of Norman.

A \$900,000 appropriation for the start of construction is part of the Bureau of Reclamation budget for the 1961-62 fiscal year. It has been recommended by both former President Eisenhower and President Kennedy, and approval by Congress is considered virtually certain.

"We are going ahead with final design data and specifications," M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the bureau, said in Oklahoma City this morning. "These should be finished shortly after the first of the year, and we will advertise for bids. It looks like about the end of March or the first of April we should be awarding the contract."

The work probably will be done in two sections, he said, with an initial contract let for the dam and reservoir construction and a later one for the installation of pipelines and pump-

ing stations. Actual construction is expected to take about three years.

Barclay said the contracts between the cities and the conservancy district and between the district and the federal government are being reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior and are scheduled for signing sometime in July.

The contracts call for the district to repay the government a maximum of \$12,487,650, plus interest, over a 50-year period. Shares of the individual cities are \$4,847,850 for Norman, \$5,321,100 for Midwest City and \$2,408,700 for Del City. These figures include the pipelines, interest during construction and 5 per cent contingency for increases in cost over the engineers' estimate.

The government will bear approximately \$6 million of the cost for flood control benefits,

fish and wildlife conservation and recreation facilities.

Once the appropriation is approved — probably in August or September — acquisition of right-of-way and of land for the dam and reservoir will begin, Barclay said.

"Things really look fine," he added. "Considering the complexity of the problem involving three cities, this project has moved better than I ever expected."

D. H. Grisso, president of the conservancy district, said that as soon as the contracts are ratified "the three cities will have to get together and begin a study of a filtration system."

Treatment of the water is not included in the cost of the project, and preliminary studies now are under way to determine whether the cities can more feasibly operate a joint filtration plant at the lake or
(See Page 3, Column 1)

Midwest, Del City Okay Dam Project

(Continued from Page 1)

their own plants at the terminals of their pipelines. Norman's share of the cost of a filtration system, under either plan, is estimated at \$1.6 million.

Grisso expressed gratification at the results of the elections Tuesday and said the outcome proves that "people really want this lake."

Harold S. Cooksey, district secretary and president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, is vacationing in Wisconsin, after testifying before House and Senate subcommittees on the requested appropriation.

Midwest, Del City Press Reservoir Drive

6-14-61

Civic leaders of Midwest City and Del City today headed into the final week of their campaign for a favorable vote on approval of the Little River Reservoir next Tuesday.

That's the name given the project there, rather than the Bureau of Reclamation's formal designation of the Norman Project, and for obvious reasons. Midwest City's financial stake in the lake will be greater than Norman's, because of the longer pipeline involved, even though it will get a slightly smaller share of the water than Norman.

Both Oklahoma County cities will vote Tuesday on approval of contracts for the repayment of their respective shares of the cost of the reservoir. Midwest

City's obligation will be \$5,231,100 and Del City's, \$2,408,700. Norman voters on May 23, by a margin of 13 to 1, approved the repayment over 50 years of \$4,847,850.

As in Norman, voters of the other two cities will be asked to approve also a small tax levy in any year in which water revenue is insufficient to meet the annual payment. Both questions must be approved in all three cities before work can begin.

The reservoir was the subject of the Midwest City Chamber of Commerce forum Tuesday, with John F. Malone, Norman Chamber manager, as the main speaker. Malone reviewed the history of the project from its formal inception about 12 years ago, stressing the thousands of

man-hours of study and preparation behind the proposal.

Walt Keser, is chairman of the Midwest City mayor's committee appointed to press for approval of two ballot propositions similar to those passed by Norman voters. He outlined the steps taken so far and said the final push will come Saturday.

About 20,000 fact sheets, similar to those circulated in Norman, were printed, and 15,000 were distributed by mail, Keser said.

In addition, placards with the slogan, "Think Big, Vote Yes," are on display at all major stores in the city. Full-page ads have appeared in the weekly Midwest City Leader and the Tinker Shopper, along with front-page stories and editori-

als in the Leader, which will repeat the ad this week. Oklahoma City radio and television stations are running recorded announcements.

Keser said all precinct workers were called in last week and the two ballot propositions explained to them. Speakers have addressed the Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis and Civitan Clubs, and "every organized group in the city, without exception," was solicited for funds to carry on the campaign, Keser said.

"We're not hitting the residential areas at all," he added, "but we're saturating the business districts. The culmination will be Saturday, when each civic club will send representatives to pass out the fact sheets in all of the shopping centers."

Keser said no organized opposition to the proposal has been evident, although "we are getting a few rumbles from areas on the east. But when the facts are explained, the arguments are pretty well answered."

In Del City similar operations are under way on a somewhat smaller scale. City Manger Huey Long said a fact sheet, shorter and less complicated than the one in use in Midwest City, is being placed in the sack of each shopper at all grocery stores.

Lawns all over Del City this week will sprout "Vote Yes" signs mounted on sticks. A mayor's committee, headed by the Rev. Hub Collier, is circulating handbills throughout the city, and ads and stories have appeared in the Del City News, also a weekly publication.

Funds for Reservoir Cleared by Congress

Kerr Sees State Canal Link To Mississippi by 1970

WASHINGTON (AP) — A program to provide barge transportation from Oklahoma City, as well as Tulsa, to the Mississippi River by 1970 was disclosed Monday by Sen. Robert S. Kerr.

A feasibility study involving a canal from Oklahoma City was included in an \$83.5 million appropriation for the Arkansas River navigation program approved Monday by the Senate-House conference committee.

The conferees agreed on the \$122 million appropriation for water projects in and affecting Oklahoma in the current fiscal year. The agreement is subject to expected House and Senate approval, and is part of the entire public works appropriation bill of nearly \$4 billion.

Kerr said under the program for Oklahoma City, a canal would link the city with the Mississippi River via the Arkansas River.

Kerr said the legislative pro-

gram called for construction of the Central Oklahoma project by 1970.

"We hope to secure authorization of the project in 1964 or 1966," he said. "We have an even chance to justify it for authorization by 1964. This would allow its completion simultaneously with the Arkansas navigation project which is our hope."

It is hoped that navigation facilities will be completed by 1970 to carry barge traffic from the Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Ocean.

Now under construction are some of the 19 locks and dams on the Arkansas between the Mississippi River and Catoosa, near Tulsa.

In connection with the Oklahoma projects there were only minor changes in the items as the bill originally passed the Senate and House, Kerr and Sen. Mike Monroney said.

For reservoir projects, the largest amounts approved for the year which began July 1 included \$28,000,000 for Eufaula Dam and reservoir; \$27,500,000 for Keystone and \$1,759,000 for Oologah.

For Broken Bow Reservoir, in McCurtain County, the conference committee retained the Senate-approved \$1,250,000 for construction. The House pad put the figure at \$1,000,000.

Millwood Reservoir on Little River in Arkansas near the Oklahoma line would receive \$3,000,000 for construction under the conference committee proposal, Kerr said, instead of the \$3,500,000 million the House approved.

A \$250,000 planning fund for a study of pumpback units at reservoirs which the House had included in the bill and which the Senate took out was left out by the committee, according to the senator.

Senator Links Dam Project, Central Canal

Congress today gave final approval and sent to the White House a \$900,000 appropriation for the start of the Norman Reservoir. Senate approval of the bill came shortly after noon. The House had acted earlier this morning.

Both chambers approved the measure by voice votes.

The funds are part of a \$3,908,880,980 public works money bill which also includes \$83.5 million for the Arkansas River navigation program. The Norman project was tied officially to that program for the first time Monday by Sen. Robert S. Kerr.

Study Funds Included

The senior Oklahoma senator announced that the Norman Reservoir could be used as a turnaround for barges traveling along a proposed canal linking central Oklahoma with the Arkansas River and added "it is our hope it will become the terminal facility."

The appropriations measure includes \$50,000 for a study of the proposed canal from the Arkansas to the Eufaula Reservoir now under construction, then west to the Norman Reservoir. Estimated cost of this program, known as the Central Oklahoma Project, is \$530 million.

Purchases To Start

Kerr said in Washington Monday that the canal could be authorized by 1964 or 1966, allowing its completion at about the same time as the rest of the Arkansas navigation project.

Final approval of the \$900,000 appropriation, the first actual working funds for the \$18 million reservoir, will allow purchase of rights-of-way in the dam area near Little Axe to begin this year.

Final plans and specifications for the dam and reservoir are expected to be completed and bids advertised on the entire job by late spring. Construction is expected to take about three years.

To Repay \$12 Million

When completed, the reservoir will supply water for Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

The three cities will repay about \$12 million of the amount over a 50-year period.

The appropriations for the Arkansas River navigation project in Oklahoma include \$28 million for additional construction of the Eufaula Reservoir, \$27.5 million for the Keystone Reservoir and \$250,000 for planning the Short Mountain lock and dam, first of six locks and dams to be built in the state as a part of the project.

Other Oklahoma project funds approved were \$15 million for bank stabilization on the Arkansas River including those in Arkansas, \$1,759,000 for Oologah Dam, \$175,000 for Pine Creek Reservoir planning in McCurtain County, \$10,000 for studies of flood control in the Cimarron River basin and \$25,000 for planning of the Kaw Reservoir near Ponca City.

(Earlier Story on Page 10)

73 Paved by City

Dons Dress Festivities

The picture will be repeated at 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. Two shows are scheduled the following Saturday, Dec. 9, when the feature will be "The Courage of Black Beauty" and a cartoon. On Dec. 16 "My Dog Buddy" and a cartoon will be shown twice. San

City Creates Paving District For 42 Blocks

(Continued From Page 1)

five per cent below the engineer's estimate.

All of the streets — most of which presently are gravel or low-grade asphalt — would be of portland cement concrete construction, 26 feet wide, with curbs and gutters. Clark said the cost of concrete construction is only slightly higher than the cost of asphaltic concrete with a proper base under it.

All of the streets in the district were recommended by Task Force Streets, the citizens' group appointed by Mayor Earl Sneed to promote street improvements in Norman. Listed by segments, the streets marked for paving are:

Eufaula Included

Flood Avenue between Lindsey and Parsons Street; Pickard from Timberdell Road to the north line of the Woodland Addition; Daws

Dr. Albin's Rites Pend

Dr. Albin was born Nov. 10, 1890, in Albany, Mo., and received his M.D. degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., in 1917. He was a member of the American Medical Association and the Missouri State Medical Society. He was elected to the Norman Municipal Hospital in 1920. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the American Legion and the Norman Chapter of the Elks Club. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Order of the Moose. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Order of the Odd Fellows. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Firefighters. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Officers. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Chiefs. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Executives. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Commissioners. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Administrators. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Superintendents. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Inspectors. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Sergeants. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Constables. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Patrolmen. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Officers. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Chiefs. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Executives. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Commissioners. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Administrators. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Superintendents. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Inspectors. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Sergeants. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Constables. He was a member of the Norman Chapter of the International Association of Police Patrolmen.

being selected at from Norman and sea — Moore, Noble, Purcell, Washington, and other communities with about 70 winners from Norman and 70 from outside the

(See Page 2, Column 8)

Sept. 6, 1961

Reservoir Money Bill Clears House Committee



CONTRACTS SIGNED—Representatives from the City of Norman, the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and the federal government Tuesday night signed contracts for the construction of

the Little River Dam project. Signing the pact are (from left) Norman Mayor Earl Sneed, Leon Hill of the Bureau of Reclamation, and D. H. Grisso, president of the conservancy district. (Transcript Photo)

The House Appropriations Committee today approved an initial \$900,000 appropriation to begin construction of the Norman Reservoir on the Little River.

The funds were part of a \$76,659,000 water resources construction program for Oklahoma during the present fiscal year.

Original plans called for the bill to be brought up in the House Thursday but it was decided to put consideration off until next week, probably next Tuesday.

Officials of the Bureau of Reclamation and the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District predicted no further obstacles to congressional approval of the Norman appropriation. M. G. Barclay, area engineer for the bureau, said purchase of right-of-way for the dam site itself should start

late this year, and specifications for the prime contract are scheduled to be ready late in April.

The contract should be let in late May or early June, he added, and ground probably will be broken around the last of June.

Meanwhile officials of the city of Norman and the conservancy district Tuesday night formally approved both the city's contract with the district and the district's contract with the federal government for repayment of the reimbursable costs of the \$18 million reservoir.

The city's contract calls for the payment to the district, over a 50-year period, of \$4,847,850, plus interest that has been set at 2.742 per cent per year. The district, over the same period, will repay the U.S. approximately \$12 million, with the government bearing the remainder of the total cost.

Both contracts are contingent upon the formal signing by Midwest City and Del City of their contracts with the district. But D. H. Grisso, district president, said this approval is expected as soon as "a few little details" are worked out by the other two cities.

Participating in the signing ceremonies here Tuesday night were Barclay, Grisso, Mayor Earl Sneed of Norman, Leon Hill of the bureau's regional office at Amarillo; Harold S. Cooksey, district secretary, and others.

Barclay said a "substantial part" of the initial appropriation will be used for the preparation of final plans and specifications and for the purchase of land in the construction area — the dam site itself and the borrow pits from which earth will be taken for the building of the 7,420-foot-long dam.

The prime contract, however, will be for the construction of all of the 6,000-acre lake except pipelines and pumping stations. Once the initial appropriation is made and the contract is let, further appropriations will be made by Congress as the work progresses and the funds are needed, he said.

Midwest City's share of the total cost is \$5,231,100 and Del City's \$2,408,700. The costs are based on the allocation of shares of the water to each city — 43.8 per cent for Norman, 40.4 per cent for Midwest City and 15.8 per cent for Del City. Midwest City's cost is higher than Norman's because of the extra pipeline necessary to carry the water to that city.

The bill passed by the House committee today is the last major appropriation measure pending before this session of Congress.

The following is a list of other funds approved by the committee for flood control, navigation and reclamation projects in Oklahoma:

- Army Engineers:
 - Construction — Eufaula Reservoir \$28 million; Keystone Reservoir \$27.5 million; bank stabilization of the Arkansas River and tributaries in Oklahoma and Arkansas \$15 million; Oologah Reservoir \$1,759,000; Broken Bow Reservoir \$1 million and Canton Reservoir embankment \$350,000.
 - Planning — Pine Creek Reservoir \$100,000; Short Mountain lock and dam \$250,000.
 - Reclamation Bureau:
 - Construction — Washita Basin project \$1,800,000.
- The House committee okayed a total of \$960,369,500 for water resources construction throughout the nation.

NORMAN TRANSCRIPT

7/22/61
C.I.C.P.

Reservoir Crew Moving Into Headquarters

The four-man vanguard of a 90-person work force that will supervise construction of the Norman Reservoir is moving equipment this week into temporary quarters at the former South Base.

The four, all officials of the Bureau of Reclamation, are C. H. Clark, project construction engineer; Wallace L. Tyner, administrative officer; Leon Hatcher, chief of survey, and J. C. Wolcott, chief of the right-of-way division.

Temporary offices of the staff are on the second floor of Building 118, headquarters of Norman Property Management, Inc., which leased the space to them. The General Services Administration currently is seeking more suitable ground-floor offices for the bureau for the next three or four years.

But while it is looking, Clark

said, "we're going right ahead and forming our organization. We hope to have about 30 people here by Jan. 1 and around 60 by July 1. At the peak of construction we anticipate we'll have about 90 employees."

Most of these, like the four already here, will be transferred from other Bureau of Reclamation projects in 17 western states to work on the \$18 million reservoir on the Little River. They will include surveyors, engineers, appraisers, draftsmen, office workers and supervisory personnel, among others, and nearly all will bring their families with them.

Clark already has bought a house in Norman and plans to move his family here as soon as he can sell his home in Albuquerque, N. M. He has a wife, a son in the University of New Mexico and two daughters, in

the seventh and ninth grades.

Both Clark and Tyner worked on the Middle Rio Grande project near Albuquerque, Clark as project manager. Hatcher and Wolcott are moving from Clinton, where they worked on the Foss Reservoir project.

While handling the tiresome and often frustrating details of setting up and staffing a headquarters, Clark is supervising work on the project itself. Appraisals of land in the area of the dam itself, immediately south of Little Axe, already are under way, he said, and purchase of right-of-way will start immediately.

"We'll buy the land for the dam site and borrow area, then begin working upstream," he said. "We understand the interest of the people in that area in knowing just what land they may retain and what they will

have to sell. We will move ahead as quickly as possible in answering their questions."

But he emphasized that those answers are not available yet, and probably will not be until after the first of the year.

"We've had some survey work in progress," he said, "but it will be at least Dec. 1, maybe later, before we can really move out on this."

The "borrow area," as its name implies, is the region from which dirt will be taken for construction of the 7,420-foot-long, earth-filled dam. It will require approximately 2,800,000 cubic yards of earth.

"We try to put the borrow area in the reservoir itself if we can find suitable materials in sufficient quantities," Clark said. "We have a drilling rig with which we'll be doing some exploration soon."

He expressed hope of issuing

specifications this month for the construction near the dam of what eventually will be a gate tender's home. During construction of the dam, however, it will be the bureau's field office, and after the lake is completed the building will be finished as a modern home.

"We plan to issue specifications on the dam itself in April and award the contract in June," Clark said. "The tempo will pick up quickly after that. A contract for the pipelines and pumping stations will be let during the next fiscal year."

Other key personnel expected by early next month are an office engineer, who will handle design and contract administration, and a field engineer who will be in charge of the actual construction itself. Others then will be added as fast as they are transferred from other projects.

Senate Approves \$900,000 for Reservoir

Sept 24, 61

The Senate Saturday passed a huge public works appropriation bill which includes a \$900,000 allocation to begin construction on the Norman Reservoir.

The Little River project funds are included in a \$3,662,701,380 public works measure which still must be approved again by both the House and Senate after compromise on differing items in conference.

The conference was necessitated when the Senate Appropriations Committee, which okayed the bill Wednesday, increased the

amounts for several projects, including two in Oklahoma.

When final approval of the bill is given, purchase of land for the Little River project, at the dam site south of Little Axe, is scheduled to begin.

The \$900,000 appropriation is for the current fiscal year, ending June 30. Contract for construction of the entire 6,000-acre reservoir is expected to be let late in the spring.

The current fund allocation is the first for the \$18 million Norman project. When completed,

the reservoir will supply water for Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

The three cities will repay about \$12 million of the amount over a 50-year period.

Two increases for Oklahoma projects approved by the Senate were for Broken Bow Reservoir and Pine Creek Reservoir. The Broken Bow appropriation was raised from \$1 million to \$1¼ million. Pine Creek allocation was increased from \$100,000 to \$175,000.

Other Oklahoma projects in the urday were:

Army Engineers: construction—Eufaula Reservoir \$28 million; Keystone Reservoir \$27½ million; bank stabilization of the Arkansas River including those in Arkansas, \$15 million; Oologah Reservoir \$1,759,000; Canton Reservoir \$350,000.

Army Engineers: planning — Short Mountain lock and dam, first of six locks and dams to be built in Oklahoma as part of the Ar-

kansas River navigation project, \$250,000.

Reclamation Bureau: construction completion of the Foss and Ft. Cobb projects in the Washita Basin \$1,800,000.

Oklahoma-related projects in adjacent states, which raised the amount affecting Oklahoma to more than \$122 million, include the Millwood Reservoir in Arkansas, \$3½ million; the Sanford Reservoir in Texas, \$4,200,000; and \$10,000 for a study of the Cimarron River in New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

OC Seeks Land Near Reservoir?

Renewed efforts by Oklahoma City interests to purchase land in the area of the Norman Reservoir were being reported this week.

Property owners along Hog Creek and north of the Little River have been receiving letters from at least two Oklahoma City real estate firms informing them that buyers are available for their land and asking that they return enclosed post cards indicating the per-acre price they want for the land.

This procedure follows the pattern used by Oklahoma City before it annexed large areas of northern Cleveland County last year and early this year. Once strips of land extending south on the east and west were acquired, the new owners pe-

tioned for annexation to Oklahoma City and were taken in. The land between the strips then was bordered on three sides and was annexed to Oklahoma City without consent of the property owners.

Although Court Clerk Helen Jansing said few or no new deeds had been filed recently, it was reported that several landowners in the reservoir area near Little Axe had sold their property.

Oklahoma City already extends east to the eastern tip of the soon-to-be-built lake and south to Moore. Lee Kidder, chief planner for Norman, pointed out that the capital city needs to acquire only a strip of land to the south in the lake area and another at some point to the west. It then could annex all of the land between.

1-18-62

Kennedy Asks \$7.5 Million For Reservoir

An appropriation of \$7,500,000 for construction and rehabilitation work on the Little River Reservoir in east Norman was included in President Kennedy's budget recommendations to Congress today.

The President included \$65 million for Oklahoma water projects in his recommendation of a water projects program to cost nearly \$1.4 billion in the year starting July 1. Proposed reclamation projects totaled \$304,785,000.

Last year Congress appropriated \$900,000 to begin construction of the \$18 million municipal water supply reservoir on the Little River. The project was authorized in June 1960.

The lake, when completed, will cover from 12 to 20 square miles and will supply water to Norman, Midwest City and Del City.

With a shore line ranging from 76 to nearly 100 miles, depending upon the lake level, it will provide a recreation area larger than any within 100 miles of Norman, along with irrigation and flood-control benefits, fish and wildlife resources and an expected attraction to industry to locate in the area.

Charles H. Clark, project construction engineer for the Reclamation Bureau, said today his crew has started making appraisals on land in the dam area and will start making offers to property owners soon. Twenty employees are on the bureau's roll here now and more are expected later this month or early in February. About 60 men will be

(See Page 2, Column 1)

JFK Seeks Dam Funds

(Continued from Page 1)

working on the project by July 1.

Clark said he expects specifications for the dam to be ready in April and the contract to be let in June.

Amounts recommended today by Kennedy for other Oklahoma projects were:

Construction: Broken Bow Reservoir \$3,400,000; Eufaula Reservoir \$31,300,000; Keystone Reservoir \$21,000,000; Pine Creek Reservoir \$600,000.

Planning: Short Mountain lock and dam \$531,000; Webbers Falls lock and dam \$325,000.

Surveys: Arkansas and Red Rivers to Oklahoma City \$175,000; Arkansas River-Eufaula Reservoir \$60,000; Boswell Reservoir \$7,200; Boteau River in Oklahoma and Arkansas \$42,000; Shidler Reservoir site, Salt Creek \$22,600; Arkansas-Red River pollution study in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana and Arkansas \$177,000.

1-16-

Annexation Gets Okay

Cleveland County commissioners Monday approved an annexation proposal extending Lexington's town limits. Members of the Lexington Town Board met with the commissioners.

Next step in the annexation will be drawing up of the financial plan and the necessary legislation.

The property being annexed is in Section 5, Township 10 North, Range 1 west of the Indian

Dam Fund Plans Outlined

1-19-62

A proposed breakdown of the \$7.5 million requested by President Kennedy Thursday for the Norman Reservoir project was given today by Charles H. Clark, project construction engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation.

Clark said that "rounding off the figures," some \$5.5 million would be for the dam itself, \$1.6 million for pipelines, \$325,000 for pumping plants and \$25,000 for recreation and fish and wildlife services.

Specifications for construction of the dam are expected to be ready in April and a contract let in June. The date for letting a contract for the pipelines and pumping stations has been moved back to January 1963, Clark said, but this will not affect the scheduled completion date of sometime in 1966.

Clark also released a tentative schedule of the completion of various stages of the project, emphasizing, however, that the dates will depend on rainfall and numerous other variable factors.

The first water is expected to be impounded around September 1964, he said, when workers complete construction of outlet works and spillway and begin closing the gap left in the center of the dam for escape of the water.

Water for testing of pipelines and pumping stations is expected to be available by August 1965, and virtually all of the construction work should be finished by Jan. 1, 1966, Clark said.

The 20 persons already on

hand in the bureau's office here are mostly surveyors and engineers who are surveying and making appraisals of land in the immediate vicinity of the dam and "borrow" area, from which earth will be taken for the dam itself.

"We expect to start contacting property owners in this area within the next two weeks," Clark said.

Among key personnel who have arrived recently are Joe Monserud, field engineer, who has moved his family to Norman from Casper, Wyo.; George Bailey, office engineer, who has just returned from an assignment in Nepal and plans to move his family here within a month, and Ted Krisher and Louis Kennedy, who have been added to the rights-of-way division.

Of Dam Draws Near

The Bureau of Reclamation will begin contacting property owners within a week to negotiate for the purchase of land in the vicinity of the Little River dam, Charles Clark, project construction engineer, said today.

The only property to be bought immediately will be that needed for the dam itself and for the "borrow area" from which earth will be taken for the structure, Clark said. As work progresses on the dam, appraisers will begin contacting the owners of land upstream along Little River and Hog Creek in the reservoir area.

Clark outlined the procedures used by the bureau in the purchase of land and said each of the property owners affected will be given a booklet, as

soon as they are available, that will answer many of their questions.

Probably the biggest question to be listed in the booklet is "How much will you be paid for your property?"

"The Constitution of the United States provides that you be paid 'just compensation' for your property," Clark said. "The courts have interpreted this to mean 'fair market value' — the amount which would be agreed upon between a willing seller and a willing buyer, neither of them being obligated to sell or buy.

"The value of your property will be appraised by men experienced in the valuation of real property similar to yours. They will carefully inspect your property, examine the soil,

(See Page 3, Column 2)

2/2/62

Purchasing of Land Nears

(Continued from page 1)

measure the size of the buildings and observe any special improvements. If you, as the landowner, are available during the appraisal of the land, you will be encouraged to accompany the appraisers to insure that all things have been considered.

"Recent sales of property in the area will serve as a basis to establish real property values."

Sen. Robert S. Kerr also gave assurance some time ago to property owners in the reservoir area that the government will pay fair prices for their land and improvements.

Clark explained that the bureau will acquire title, in fee simple, to land that will be inundated or frequently flooded. Title to lands that will be infrequently flooded will be left with the owner, where feasible, and a flowage easement will be obtained to allow temporary flooding of the land.

In some cases, Clark said, part of the land of one owner may be purchased, an easement obtained on another part and a third portion would remain unaffected.

After the appraisal is completed, reviewed and approved by an appropriate authority, an authorized representative of the government will call on the landowner, Clark continued, or write him if he is a nonresident. He will be given a figure in writing of the amount the government is willing to pay and be allowed sufficient time to consider the offer. If he agrees to the price he will be asked to sign a land purchase contract.

If the property owner does not agree with the price, Clark

said, every effort will be made to explain to him the reasons for the estimate and to discuss the factors that have been considered.

If the landowner still does not agree, the government will file a condemnation suit through the federal courts. In all cases the owner will be given full opportunity to produce evidence to support his claims before a jury, Clark said.

"On land acquired in fee, all growing crops may be removed by the owner," he went on. "Crops that cannot be harvested prior to the date of possession will be appraised and their value allowed as part of the purchase price. If buildings, fences and timber are desired to be retained by the owner, in most every case it will be permissible with an adjustment in the purchase price."

Where improvements are reserved and removed, only the salvage value of the improvements will be deducted from the purchase price, he added.

"On land over which the government requires a flowage easement, the growing crops and timber will remain the property of the owner," Clark said. "Buildings for human habitation will not be permitted on land upon which a flowage easement is purchased, but other buildings may be allowed by permission."

Both owners and tenants who are forced to move from the land may be reimbursed for expenses and other losses or damages incurred as a direct result of the move, Clark said. The claim must be filed within one year after the date the land is vacated and cannot exceed 25 per cent of the fair

value of that parcel of land.

Each owner and tenant will be notified by letter of his right to make an application for reimbursement, and proper forms will be furnished for the purpose. The application must be supported by an itemized statement of the expenses, losses and damages incurred.

Normally, in the reservoir portion of the project, the government will require possession of the land on Dec. 31 of the year in which payment is made and the purchase is closed, Clark said. In most cases the owner will have unrestricted use of the property during that time.

He emphasized also that exceptions to this rule may be made and that an owner would not be required to give possession Dec. 31 if, for example, the transaction were not completed until late in the year.

"This information is all general," Clark added. "In each individual case the Bureau of Reclamation's land representative will inform the owner as to the circumstances on his particular tract."

The bureau is preparing final plans for the dam and expects to award a contract in June or July. Work probably would start by August, Clark said, if no unexpected delays occur and a work order is issued in a reasonable length of time.

Once a contract is signed, however, many of the decisions are left up to the contractor on when to begin work, how fast and in what order to proceed, Clark said. The over-all project, including pipelines and pumping stations, is expected to take a maximum of 3½ years.

City Planning Curbs On Pollution of Lake

The City Commission will move next Tuesday toward preventing pollution of the Norman Reservoir, probably by prohibiting — at least temporarily — all oil drilling within the area to be inundated.

Pollution, especially from drilling, was the main topic discussed by city commissioners, members of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and others at a meeting Monday night.

Various aspects of recreation at the lake, which is expected to be completed in 1965, also came in for study. But the group decided

more information is needed before it can make definite plans in this field.

The immediate concern of the city and conservancy district (the agency that will operate the reservoir) is over an event that may never happen: the discovery of oil in large quantities within the lake site itself.

D. H. Grisso, district president, said that at present only one small producer, a well on Hog Creek north of Little Axe, is located in the reservoir area. A 40-acre offset to this venture came up with a dry hole, he said.

But Commissioner-elect Guy M. Steele, a geologist and independent oilman, warned that commercial production could be found in the area at any time.

The Bureau of Reclamation, which was represented at the meeting by Charles Clark, project engineer, will buy the land needed for the lake itself, in general up to a line that represents the five-year flood stage. In this area, Clark said, the minerals also will be purchased or will be subordinated to the principal use of the reservoir — meaning probably that wells could be drilled only directionally from outside the lake.

But no funds for acquiring this land will be available until after the beginning of the next fiscal year on July 1, and purchase of the land will take most of the year, Clark said.

If, in the meantime, a commercially producing well were found in the reservoir, the bureau — and through it the project —

(See Page 3, Column 2)

17-Per-Cent Increase

City Check Clearings Lead District Again

For the second month in a row, Norman leads a seven-state district in the increase over 1961 in the amount represented by checks cleared by the three city banks.

Norman, along with Santa Fe, N.M., chalked up a 17-per-cent gain for the first four months of the year. The increase was the same as that for the first three months, when the city tied with Atchinson, Kan., for first place in the district. Atchinson slipped to third place at the end of April with an average 16-per-cent gain.

For April alone, Norman's gain over the same month of 1961 was 19 per cent, eighth highest among the 43 reporting cities of the 10th Federal Reserve District. The March increase was 25 per cent, largest in the district. In April, however, Independence, Mo., took over the top single-month spot, also with a 25-per-cent gain.

The checks cleared in Norman in April amounted to \$21,740,000 to bring the year's total to \$91,955,000. For the entire district the totals were \$9,710,001,000 in April, a 13-per-cent increase, and \$39,495,241,000 for the first four months, a gain of 9 per cent.

In Oklahoma, Norman's April increase was topped only by Enid's 21 per cent. Other gains were recorded by Oklahoma City, 16 per cent; Muskogee, 15 per cent; Lawton and Ponca City, 10 per cent; Guthrie, 9 per cent; Tulsa, 8 per cent, and Bartlesville, 6 per cent. Okmulgee dropped 8 per cent.

For the first four months, Norman was followed by Oklahoma City, 12 per cent; Lawton, 11 per cent; Tulsa, 9 per cent; Bartlesville and Guthrie, 7 per cent; Muskogee, 5 per cent; Okmulgee, 3 per cent, and Enid, 1 per cent. Ponca City showed a 2-per-cent loss from 1961.

Gent Speaker For Luncheon

Members of the Chamber of Commerce and three civic clubs will attend the annual Armed Forces Day luncheon at noon Tuesday in the Union Building ballroom.

Principal speaker will be Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Gent Jr., commander of the 32nd NORAD Region, who will explain and give a demonstration of the method used by the North American Air Defense Command in protecting the U. S. from aerial attack.

The luncheon will replace the regular weekly meetings of the Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis clubs.

A drone reconnaissance plane and its control equipment from Ft. Sill will be on display at Main Street and Peters Avenue Tuesday, and exhibits of military equipment are in store windows throughout the business district.

City Plans Move on Lake Pollution

(Continued From Page 1)

cities of Norman, Midwest City and Del City — would have to buy the well. This cost could run to a million dollars or more, Steele said.

The city's best insurance, the commissioners decided, is to prevent this from happening. And after considerable discussion they came up with this proposal:

The city would rezone the area inside the "take line" — the land to be purchased by the bureau — from its present A-2 (rural agricultural) classification, which permits oil drilling, to A-1 (general agricultural), which does not.

Then it would set up a committee to study restrictions imposed in other areas on drilling near municipal water supplies. Such restrictions might include requirements for directional drilling, the location of tank batteries, safeguards against pollution and the posting of performance bonds by oil companies to guarantee they would be responsible for correcting any pollution that might occur.

The possibility of putting drilling rigs on towers above the water level or building causeways to them from the shore also was

discussed. But Grisso said such measures in other areas generally have proved prohibitively expensive.

Just what areas the restrictions might cover also must be decided. The consensus of the five commissioners present Monday, however, appeared to be that they should apply to any well drilled in the Little River watershed.

City Manager Joe Parris agreed to have ready by the Commission's regular meeting next Tuesday an ordinance rezoning the lake area itself from A-2 to A-1. Passage of this ordinance, after a 15-day protest period, would halt all drilling at the site.

Parris said he also will try to have by Tuesday information on drilling restrictions in force in other areas, such as a large water-supply lake that encompasses an existing oil field north of Amarillo, Tex.

The commissioners and board members agreed also that oil wells are only one of several potential sources of pollution at the lake. Clark and Parris said, however, that Oklahoma has stringent laws to protect against other sources of pollution, if they can be enforced.

"The real problem is in enforcement," Parris said. "The local City-County Health Department is

not staffed adequately to provide the necessary enforcement. We need to see that it is adequately staffed."

Approval by county voters on May 1 of a 2½-mill levy for health services "would help tremendously in providing this protection for the lake," he added.

The main discussion of recreation revolved around who will maintain and supervise the recreational facilities.

"Our contract is with the master conservancy district," Clark said, "and this agency customarily develops a contract with the state park division (in Oklahoma, the Planning and Resources Board) to manage the recreation. In this case the city has annexed the entire area, so we have a somewhat different situation. Usually the state park system is still the best qualified, but this is up to the conservancy district."

Grisso said the district's board had discussed the matter only briefly and informally, since it is not yet a pressing question. In general, however, it has been the board members' thinking, he added, that the district would contract with the state board for the operation of the parks, picnic grounds, fishing facilities, boat docks and other aspects of recreation.

Clark pointed out that a large amount (some \$3 million) of the funds the government will put up will be for recreation and fish and wildlife benefits. These funds will construct camp grounds, picnic tables, sanitation facilities, access roads, etc. for free public use, he said.

The exact amount of land to be acquired for recreation purposes has not been determined, he added, but the total area inside the "take line" is about 12,000 acres, while the lake itself, at normal elevation, will occupy only about 6,000 acres. Most of the rest of this area is in shoreline with several large sites, particularly south and west of the dam, suitable for picnic and camping areas.

Clark pointed also to a recent announcement by the secretary of the Interior of a proposed policy of acquiring more land for public recreation. If Congress passes enabling legislation to permit the policy to go into effect, additional recreation land may be acquired at the lake, he said.

Near the end of the 2½-hour meeting Parris suggested that the Commission set another study session later with a representative of the state Planning and Resources Board to go more thoroughly into the proposed operation of the recreation facilities.

C of C Directors Hear Dam Report

The board of directors of the Norman Chamber of Commerce heard a progress report on the Norman Reservoir at a meeting Monday at the Lockett Hotel.

The report was given by Charles Clark, project engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation.

The remainder of the board agenda was routine business.

Chamber Plans 'Value Days'

Bid Invitation Shows Size of Dam Project

(Continued From Page 1)

contract must accomplish during that time are:

Excavation of a total of 3,223,000 cubic yards of earth, including borrow areas (from which dirt is taken for the dam) and for the highway.

The moving of 2,600,00 cubic yards of earth into the dam embankment itself.

The placing of 52,000 tons of riprap, 170,000 square yards of sodding and 20,000 square yards of topsoil.

The pouring of 10,676 cubic yards of concrete for the spillway and outlet works and another 270 cubic yards in the highway bridge across the river.

The furnishing and placing of 1,705,000 pounds of reinforcing steel and 159,000 pounds of structural steel.

The contractor also will divert and care for the river during construction, clear certain areas, install 5,700 feet of various types of drains, install high-pressure gates and control equipment, trash racks, a ventilation system and electrical conduit, construct a detour for Oklahoma 9 and perform a number of other tasks.

Available for inspection by prospective contractors, in addition to detail plans and specifications, are aerial photographs of the dam site, overlaid with outlines of the dam, the borrow areas, right-of-way being acquired and other details.

The photos show that the new highway will skirt the south shore of the reservoir and angle northwest across the Little River below the dam, rejoining the present highway about a half mile east of Little Axe. Clark said the total project cost includes funds for the eventual participation in the relocation of about 10 miles of the highway, although only two miles of relocation are included in the initial project.

The right-of-way line at the north end of the dam passes

through the Little Axe school, and James C. Walcott, chief of the right-of-way division, confirmed that the school will have to be purchased. It probably will be used as a construction headquarters during the building, he said.

East of the north end of the dam and immediately south of the highway is the site of the house that will be constructed for the lake's caretaker.

A crowd of 200 to 300, including contractors, material suppliers and others, is expected when the bids are publicly opened at 10 a.m. June 21 in the ballroom of the Lockett Hotel.

Bids on Dam Due June 21

Bids on the construction of the Little River dam and on the relocation of Oklahoma 9 around the Norman Reservoir will be opened at 10 a.m. June 21 in the ballroom of the Lockett Hotel.

Charles Clark, Bureau of Reclamation project engineer, made the announcement this morning. He added that he has invitations to bid, including all plans and specifications, on hand at the bureau office on Mercedes Drive north of Main Street.

Clark said he hopes for 15 or 20 bidders on the project and that a large crowd of contractors, material suppliers and others probably will be on hand for the opening. The event will be open to the public.

Call Nearing For Dam Bids

Invitations to bid on the construction of the Norman Reservoir will be issued about May 28, members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation announced Saturday.

The Bureau of Reclamation's chief engineer in Denver will send out the invitations on the dam itself and on the relocation of Oklahoma 9 in the dam area, Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney and Rep. John Jarman said in a telegram from Washington.

Charles Clark, project engineer for the bureau in Norman, said bids will be opened here, probably about 30 days after the invitations are issued, or late in June. Design data has been sent in to the Denver office, he added, and when all details are completed, copies of the plans and specifications will be available here, as well as in Denver.

The project cost includes the changing of the route of the state highway in the lake area, although the state and local interests will be responsible for the construction of the rest of the highway along its new route around the south edge of Norman.

Clark said also that original plans have been changed and that the highway, instead of crossing the top of the dam, will cross the Little River below the dam, then swing back northeast to join the present highway east of the lake.

Initial Project On Dam Huge Completion Time 850 Calendar Days

Bids on the major portion of the construction of the Norman Reservoir on the Little River will be opened here June 21, virtually assuring the start of work on the \$18 million project this summer.

An idea of the size of the job for which bids will be let is given in the bid invitation on hand at the Bureau of Reclamation office, 110 N. Mercedes Drive.

The bids will cover three phases of the project: construction of the 7,200-foot earthfill dam, construction of concrete spillway and outlet works and relocation of approximately two miles of Oklahoma 9.

Although the engineer's estimate of the cost of this particular work will not be released until after the bids are opened, Project Engineer Charles Clark said the contract is expected to be "somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3.5 million."

Sometime next summer contracts will be let for construction of pipelines and pumping stations, and a contract for clearing of the conservation pool — the main lake area itself — should be awarded during the winter of 1963, Clark said.

Specifications on the initial project call for a completion time of 850 calendar days, or approximately 28 months, from the date of receipt of the notice to proceed. Among the work the

(See Page 3, Column 7)

Dam Open House Today

In observance of over a half century of dam construction, the Bureau of Reclamation in Norman will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Federal Reclamation Act today with an open house at its Norman headquarters.

The open house at 110 N. Mercedes Drive will be from 2 to 4 p.m.

"I hope as many persons as possible will come to the open house," said Charles Clark, construction engineer for the Norman Reservoir dam. "This will give us an opportunity to show everybody exactly what we are doing in regard to the Norman project."

Included will be exhibits of survey and laboratory equipment and maps, charts and photographs of the Norman dam site and other dams. In addition, two films,

"Operation Glen Canyon" and "America The Beautiful," will run continuously.

Construction on the Norman dam is expected to start this summer. Over 200 persons will be at the Lockett Hotel Thursday when bids on the Norman Reservoir are opened and contracts are let. The opening of bids will begin at 10 a.m.

For the Bureau's construction program in Norman, Congress appropriated \$900,000 for acquisition of right-of-way, collection of design data, preparation of designs and specifications and award of the contract for initiation of construction of the dam. The construction contract also includes relocation of a section of Oklahoma 9 and construction of a highway bridge over the outlet channel.

The Norman Reservoir on Little River east of the city will provide for the delivery of an average of 25,000 acre-feet of water annually for municipal and industrial uses to supplement existing supplies for Norman, Del City and Midwest City. Water will be conveyed to the three cities through pipelines and two pumping plants.

The project will also give protection from flood damage, improve fish and wildlife resources and substantially increase recreational opportunities.

The dam will be an earthfill structure 100 feet high above the riverbed, 7,200 feet long at its crest and will have a volume of 2,700,000 cubic yards.

The Bureau of Reclamation has often been recognized for its (See Page 5, Column 1)

Industry Unit Lets Contracts

Norman Construction and Paving Co. today was awarded the contract for street paving and installation of storm sewers on the city industrial foundation's 63-acre tract. Work is expected to start immediately.

The tract is located on the east side of U. S. 77 about one half mile north of Robinson Street.

Norman Industries, Inc. awarded the contract after the Norman firm submitted a bid of \$50,250.-77.

The Concho Construction Co., Oklahoma City, only bidder on a sanitary sewer system, was given that contract at today's meeting at the Chamber of Commerce. The company's bid was \$11,240.25.

The Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. is planning construction of an operating headquarters at the northeast part of the tract. Construction is expected to start early in August.

Soil tests of the surface and subsoil of the tract were planned this afternoon by the Thompson Engineering Co. and Associates of Oklahoma City.

Bureau Sets Open House

(Continued From Page 1)

technical achievements over the past 60 years. The Federal Reclamation Act, which was signed by President Theodore Roosevelt on June 17, 1902, not only has been said to have started an orderly program of water-resource development in the western United States, but also has been characterized by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall as "the first truly national expression of concern with water, along with land, as the most basic of all resources."

Two of its undertakings, Hoover Dam, on the Colorado River between Nevada and Arizona, and the Columbia Basin Project, which includes Grand Coulee Dam on the Columbia River in Washington, were chosen by the American Society of Civil Engineers as two of the seven modern engineering wonders.

More recently recognition was extended to the Bureau's Glen Canyon Bridge over the Colorado River (near Glen Canyon Dam in Arizona) by the American Institute of Steel Construction as the most beautiful steel arch bridge of 1959.

Among the Bureau's many major projects are the Central Valley Project, California; Colorado-Big Thompson Project, Colorado; Colorado River Storage Project, Arizona-New Mexico-Utah-Colorado-Wyoming; Columbia Basin Project, Washington, and the 10-State Missouri River Basin Project.

Pollution Control Methods Due Council Study Tonight

Methods of controlling potential oil pollution in the Norman Reservoir area without actually banning drilling are expected to be discussed when the City Commission meets at 8 tonight at City Hall.

At their briefing session Monday morning the commissioners reported numerous calls from oil operators and property owners concerned over the prospect that the Commission may try to eliminate entirely oil exploration at the reservoir site. A sizeable delegation of oilmen and their attorneys may be on hand tonight, the commissioners said.

A matter not on the agenda — a proposal for a storm sewer assessment district in the southwest part of the city — is expected to be brought up by engineers George Peden and Carl Steele of Ground Water Associates. The pair presented the suggestion at the briefing session and were told to bring it up at tonight's meeting.

Faced with strong opposition from oil interests to a prohibition on drilling on the lake site, most of the commissioners Monday emphasized they are interested only in preventing pollution of the reservoir, upon which

construction is scheduled to begin this summer.

They apparently agreed with Planning Director Ray Patton, who said that if the lake area itself is rezoned to prohibit drilling, it should be made clear that this would be strictly a temporary measure, to be in effect only until rigid regulations can be drafted to control possible pollution of the lake.

The commissioners indicated they will move toward a temporary rezoning of the lake itself to prohibit drilling but at the same time will appoint a committee of oilmen and others

(See Page 2, ...)

Norman Beat Oklahoma City by Days on Annexation

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following statement was written by Norman's mayor in an effort to clarify Norman's stand on recent annexations, to give the public all the facts and to answer objections raised by opponents of annexation.)

By MAYOR EARL SNEED

Those who condemn Norman for annexing the watershed of the Little River, the approaches to Westheimer Field and the territory surrounding the major highways have yet to answer some basic questions.

The major question is: Would you rather be a part of Oklahoma City or a part of Norman?

This question is not answered by statements that have little

or no factual basis about city services, building regulations, the drilling of water wells, the activities of our police and fire departments, taxes or the indebtedness of Norman.

Let's take a closer look at this basic question: Would you rather be a part of Oklahoma City or a part of Norman?

Here are facts:

A few days after I became mayor on May 9, 1961, I received a call from Stanley Draper, managing director, Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. He stated that Oklahoma City was vitally interested in the Little River Reservoir. He urged that Norman act immediately to assume control of the area. I replied that we were aware of the problems, and that we

were renewing the effort to secure city-county planning.

Thereafter we began a series of meetings on city - county planning. It was a frustrating and fruitless effort. We were opposed by the same group that now opposes annexation.

After several months, and specifically in August 1961, Mr. Draper asked if I would come to Oklahoma City to meet with him concerning the Little River area.

I went to Oklahoma City. In the presence of Mr. Draper, Morgan Cain, president of the group that is seeking to bring a canal from southeastern Oklahoma to central Oklahoma, and others, I was shown a map covering Tinker Field, the Elm Creek Reservoir and the Little

River area. I was told that Oklahoma City had fought long and hard to keep Tinker Field. I was told that Oklahoma City had a very large investment in the Elm Creek Reservoir. I was told that Oklahoma City was determined to see a canal built from southeastern Oklahoma to central Oklahoma, and that the terminus of the canal would be the Little River Reservoir.

I was shown a map upon which was charted the land ownership of the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and the friends of the chamber. I was amazed to see the amount of land the Oklahoma City interests controlled in Cleveland County. I also observed that Oklahoma City had already annexed terri-

tory in the upper reaches of the proposed Little River Reservoir.

Finally, I was told in a forceful but friendly manner that if Norman did not annex the territory of the watershed of the reservoir Oklahoma City would do so. I was told that Norman was the proper city to control the area, but that if we did not Oklahoma City would.

I left the meeting knowing that Norman had to do something and if we did not the city limits of Oklahoma City would circle Norman on the east, the north, the west and possibly on the south.

In telling this, I would emphasize that I have no bitterness whatsoever against Oklahoma City. In fact, I am grateful to Oklahoma City. They told

me honestly and openly of what was to be done. Further, I recognize the legitimate interests of Oklahoma City in the area in question.

There are those who argue that Oklahoma City should have no interest in the areas west and east of Norman. Perhaps these people are not acquainted with the economic and national defense factors that make the Norman area so important to Oklahoma City, to our state and to our nation.

Let us examine these interests one by one.

Tinker Field. The Little River Reservoir lies to the south of the major runway of Tinker. Jet aircraft must have lengthy and height controlled

(See Page 2, Column 2)

Norman Beat Capital City by Days

(Continued From Page 1)

approaches. Water is ideal. It absorbs jet noise and is safe. Tinker Field is the largest employer of personnel in Oklahoma. Tinker has an annual payroll of \$128,000,000 and employs 20,000 people. At least 500 Tinker employees live in Norman. If Tinker should stop business, Oklahoma would not be ruined, but the blow would be tough and long-lasting. Oklahoma City is going to do all within its power to protect Tinker. As a citizen of Oklahoma and of the United States, I am going to do all I can to protect the interests of the United States government and of our state in Tinker. What goes on in the Little River watershed has a great bearing on the future of Tinker.

The Elm Creek Reservoir. Oklahoma City has invested millions of dollars in the Elm Creek Reservoir which lies immediately to the north of Little River. Elm Creek is a part of the mammoth and costly Atoka water project. Oklahoma City is going to make certain that the area around Elm Creek is properly controlled in order to protect the health and welfare of its citizens.

The Canal From Southeastern Oklahoma. Some say that a canal will never be built from southeastern to central Oklahoma. These are the same people who said that there would never be a Little River lake. Recently Sen. Robert S. Kerr said that the canal would be completed within a decade and that the terminus of the canal would be the Little River Reservoir. To those of vision and knowledge, the completion of this canal will mark the beginning of

the greatest development central Oklahoma has ever known. Not only will the canal bring a source of fine water to the area and make Little River a constant shore-line lake, but more importantly, the canal will bring barge freight rates to our area. (One of the reasons North American Aviation selected Tulsa last week as a development spot for its Apollo project of putting a man on the moon was the possibility of water freight rates resulting from the Eufaula Reservoir and Arkansas River development). I believe the central Oklahoma canal is coming and I recognize the interests the business leaders in Oklahoma City have in its completion.

Westheimer Field. For national defense purposes, for commercial airline purposes and for the development of the aeronautical industry, large airports such as Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma City need satellite fields. This is a method employed in World War II. Westheimer Field is in a natural location as a satellite for the larger field to its north. Oklahoma City is interested in this development and such would result in the mutual benefit of all concerned.

I have outlined four very real interests Oklahoma City has in the Norman area. They are: protection of Tinker Field; protection of the Elm Creek Reservoir; the creation of a terminus for the canal from southeastern Oklahoma, and use of Westheimer Field as a satellite for Will Rogers.

For these reasons Oklahoma City was going to annex our territory if we did not.

There will still be those who doubt the emergency nature of our action.

Let me tell you more facts.

After my meeting in August 1961 with Mr. Draper and others I returned to Norman and told my colleagues on the Commission of the meeting. We then set about to secure some way whereby we could control the area. We continued our efforts toward city - county planning and, as mentioned, we were met with unyielding opposition of those who now claim that Norman has no legitimate cause to exercise reasonable control over the land which affects us so vitally.

Things rocked along until the week of Oct. 9. One day I received a note from a person whose name I cannot reveal. The note stated that the writer had learned on good authority that Oklahoma City was going to annex a great part of the land surrounding Norman just as soon as the \$39,000,000 bond election was over. You will recall that Oklahoma City was voting on a bond issue in the latter part of October.

This knowledge spurred us to action and our major annexation came on Oct. 18, 1961. We followed a few days later, specifically on Oct. 22, with additional annexation.

The tip we had received was confirmed a week later when I saw a friend from Oklahoma City who is in the inner circles of both City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce in Oklahoma City. He asked how we obtained a pipeline into the private counsels of the capital city. I asked what he meant and he told me he had, just before our

first annexation, sat in a very, very, secret meeting in which it was stated that just after the bond election Oklahoma City would spread southward, taking in the Little River area and the area west to Norman. He stated he was greatly surprised to read in the paper that Norman had made the first move.

And if there are those who still do not believe that Oklahoma City intended to annex our lands, I call your attention to the action of the City Council of Oklahoma City on Oct. 31, 1961. This was just after the bond election, and by this action Oklahoma City added another 26 1/4 square miles in northeast Cleveland County to its city limits. This annexation included the Stella community and brought the total of Cleveland County area in Oklahoma City to 128 square miles.

And if still further proof is wanted, ask the citizens of Moore, Newcastle, Yukon, Blanchard and Goldsby about their annexation problems in recent weeks.

I repeat that I think Oklahoma City had legitimate interest in our territory. Oklahoma City forced Norman to act. We did.

I return to the basic question:

Would you rather be a part of Oklahoma City or a part of Norman?

I shall next direct my remarks to the question:

Do you believe that the elected officials of Norman have a duty to protect the long-range interests of the citizens of Norman?

(The next article is in preparation and will be published in a few days.)

Military Day Plans Readied

Plans for Norman's observance on May 15 of Armed Forces Day were discussed by the Chamber of Commerce military affairs committee Monday afternoon.

The Chamber, Lions, Kiwanis and Rotary clubs and possibly other groups will hold a joint luncheon at noon that day in the Union Building ballroom. The annual review by ROTC groups on the campus will be that afternoon, and exhibits by various service units will be on display in store windows throughout the week.

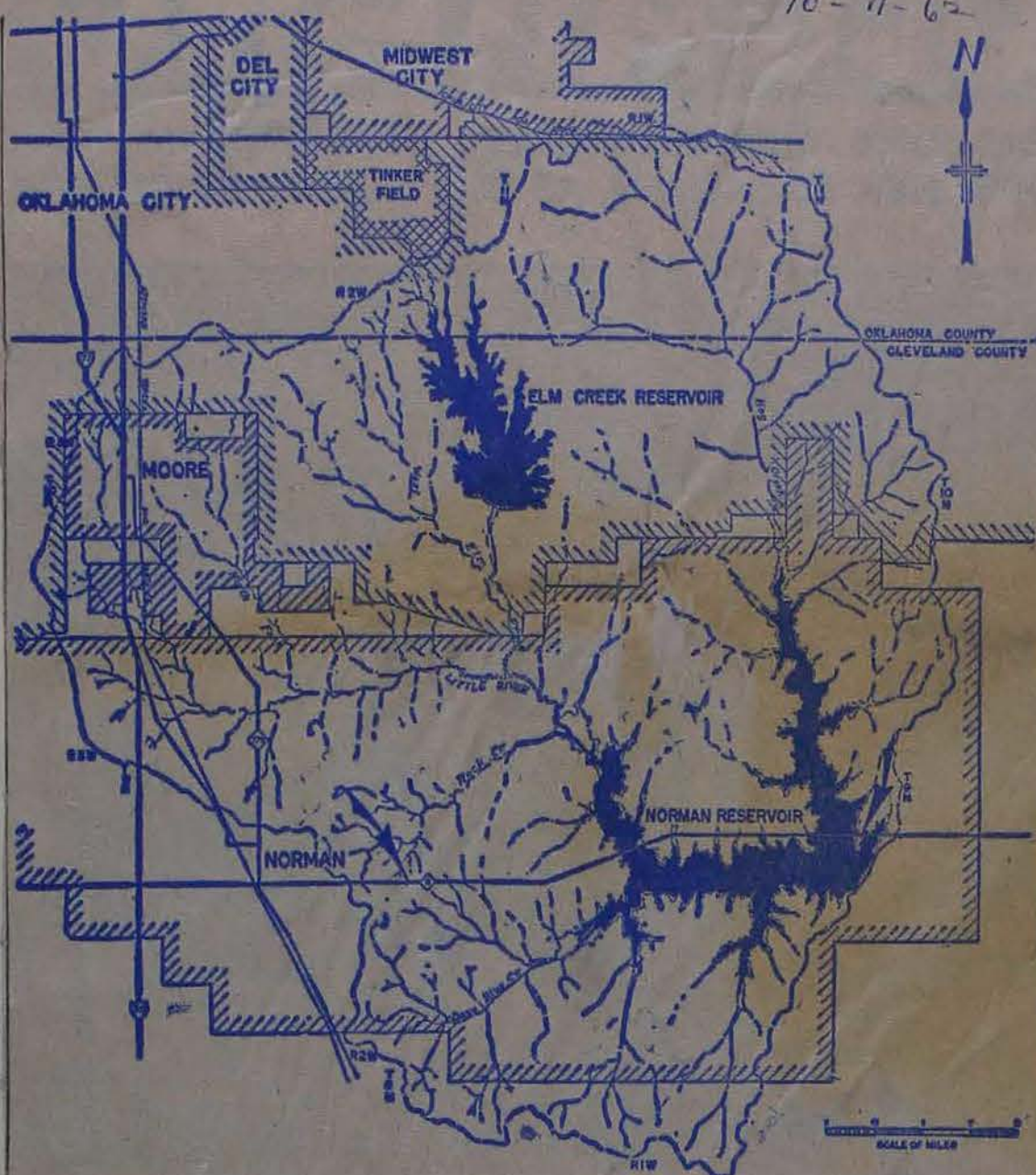
The speaker at the luncheon will be Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Gent, commander of the 32nd North American Air Defense Command Region and of the 32nd Air Division (SAGE). Gent's headquarters are at the Oklahoma City Air Force Station, southeast of Tinker Air Force Base.

Organizations that so far have lined up displays of military equipment, the committee was told Monday, are the Army Reserve, the 700th Ordnance Battalion, 45th Aviation Company, the Air Force Recruiting Station, Naval Reserve, North American Air Defense Command and American Legion.

Col. Ralph L. Stevenson, commanding officer of the Air Force ROTC at OU, is project officer for this year's observance.

The committee scheduled a meeting at 3:30 p.m. May 10 at the Chamber to wrap up final plans for the event.

Improve Plans Issues



GROUND-BREAKING SITE—The arrow at the right on Oklahoma 9 indicates the site of the ground-breaking ceremony Tuesday at an observation area one-half mile west of the former Little Axe School. The arrow at the left points to the Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club where dignitaries and other guests will be entertained at a noon luncheon.

10-1-62

Ground-Breaking Rites on Tuesday

(Continued From Page 1)

present post by President John F. Kennedy in December, 1960. He was sworn in at a White House ceremony the next month, following his unanimous confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

He has taken an active part in pressing for natural resource conservation programs and emphasizes the need for increased public awareness of and support for the programs during the 1960's. Udall resigned his seat in the House of Representatives to assume the post of secretary of the Interior.

Great Effort Exerted

He is the 37th person to hold office and the first Arizonan to serve in the Cabinet.

The formal ground breaking for the \$18 million reservoir follows a quarter-century of thought and work.

Aided by efforts of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association and the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, a bill authorizing construction of the reservoir was passed by Congress and signed into law in June, 1960.

Voters of the three project cities—Norman, Midwest City and Del City—approved by wide margins their repayment contracts with the federal government, calling for some \$12 million to be paid over a 50-year period.

Closure Due in 1964

The dam is scheduled for closure late in 1964. The first water from the reservoir is expected to be delivered to the project cities in July 1965. The project, designed primarily as a municipal and industrial water supply by the Bureau of Reclamation, also will provide for flood control, fish and wildlife benefits and recreation.

Since nearly one-third of the state's population is within 50 miles of the site and no other lake of comparable size is within that radius, it is due to become one of the major recreation areas of Oklahoma.

Picnic and camping sites, fishing docks and boat-launching ramps are expected to dot its 86-mile shoreline. Negotiations are under way for the development in the area of one of the state's largest parks.

Plenty of Water

The reservoir will spread over 6,070 acres and hold 106,000 acre feet of water. Along with the existing ground water supply, the reservoir should assure central Oklahomans of plenty of water for at least 50 years to come.

Also, a large industrial growth is expected to be attracted to the abundant water supply.

The dam will be 7,420 feet wide, 102 feet high above the stream bed and will contain 2,800,000 cubic yards of earth. Behind it, water is expected to back up more than six miles to the west and northwest along Little River and more than five miles to the north along Hog Creek. The Clear Creek and Dave Blue Creek arms will extend from one to two miles to the south.

Contractors Listed

The Cosmo Construction Co., Oklahoma City, is prime contractor for the construction of the \$3.7 million dam itself. Subcontractors are the L&A Contracting Co., Hattiesburg, Miss., and the Bud Harris Construction Co., Norman.

L&A is responsible for concrete work on the outlets and spillways. Harris is doing excavation work and relocating Oklahoma 9 around the dam site.

Ceremonies Tuesday

Dream of Reservoir Step Nearer Reality

One of the brightest chapters in the history of Norman and central Oklahoma unfolds this week with the ground breaking for the Norman Reservoir on Little River.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, U.S. Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney, Rep. John Jarman and other dignitaries and guests will all help mark the occasion.

The ceremony at 2 p.m. Tuesday will take place at a cleared observation area on Oklahoma 9, one-half mile west of the former Little Axe School.

Udall, the main speaker, will be introduced by Kerr, Monroney and Jarman are scheduled to make brief remarks. Rep. Tom Steed and Lincoln Borglum, National Park Service consultant, will also be on hand.

Norman Mayor Earl Sneed will make the welcoming address, and Rev. Hub Collier, pastor of the Southern Baptist Church in Del City, will give the invocation. Music will be provided by the Del City and Midwest City High School bands.

The dignitaries will be entertained at a noon luncheon at the Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club.

The ceremony, in keeping with the atomic age, should surprise visitors, said Harold Cooksey, master of ceremony and chairman of the general ground-breaking committee. Charles Clark, Bureau of Reclamation project engineer, said parking space will be available for 1,000 cars.

Udall was nominated to his (See Page 9, Column 7)

10-17-62

C of C Shelves Plan To Buy Decorations

The Chamber of Commerce has given up its attempt to get new Christmas street decorations this year.

Jim Shepard, chairman of the retail trade committee, said the old decorations will be used again this season, "but this is positively the last time."

"We were not able to muster quite enough pledges in the time remaining," he added, "but we were so close that I'm sure we can make it next year. We had about \$9,000 pledged, but we were still \$2,000 or \$3,000 short."

The Chamber board of directors had agreed to borrow money to buy the decorations if the committee could obtain pledges equal to 125 per cent of the cost of the equipment.

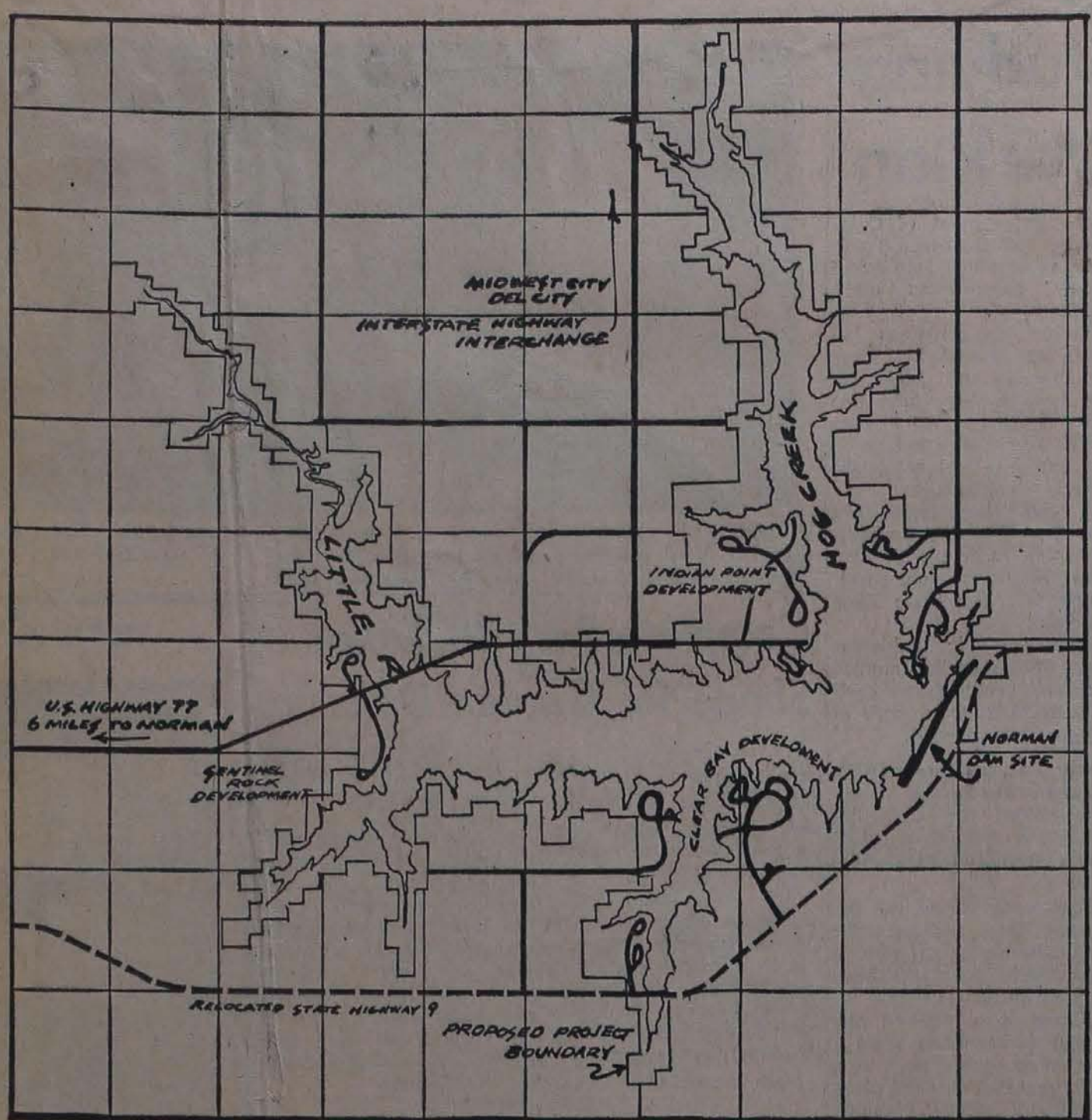
Letters are being mailed to all who pledged funds, asking them if the pledges can carry over to next year, Shepard said, "and then in March or April we'll get on this again, in plenty of time to get it set up for next year. We should be able to raise enough to do some of the little extra things we'd like to do next Christmas."

Operation Urgent — \$4.4 million in improvements to the city's water system, sewage treatment facilities, Norman Municipal Hospital and storm sewer system — received overwhelming approval from Norman voters Tuesday.

Despite concern over the sudden Cuban crisis, city taxpayers went to the polls in sufficient strength to approve all four bond issues by margins of about 2 to 1.

Early returns indicated a clean sweep for the issues. The vote went this way:

1. Water system improvement, \$1,720,000 — 2,323 for; 1,019 against.
2. Sewage treatment facili-



Tentative plans for recreational development at the Little River Reservoir call for three large parks—Indian Point on the north, Clear Bay on the south, and Sentinel Rock on the east—and several smaller recreation spots. Other plans for the area call for a fish and wildlife conservation district around the Hog

Creek arm and a biological research laboratory for the University of Oklahoma on the south. A proposed contract to turn over park development to the state planning and resources board is now under consideration by Midwest City, Del City and Norman.

Official Criticizes Government's Label for Little River Reservoir

A Midwest City official has criticized the government's project title for the Little River Reservoir, but learned action to christen the water source officially will take some time.

T. C. Pledger, Ward 2 councilman, attacked the government's title, "Norman Project," pointing out two other cities — Midwest City and Del City — are contracting cities for reservoir water.

The action came in a re-

cent spirited meeting of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, which acted as mediator between officials from the three cities and representatives of state and federal agencies in contract negotiations for recreational development of the area.

As a prelude to wrangles over several phases of the proposed contract which would turn over development to the state planning and resources board, Pledger fired questions at U. S. Bureau of Reclamation project engineer Charles Clark asking why the official title reflected the name of only one of the project cities—Norman.

Clark explained the project was dubbed by congress when the appropriations bill was introduced — probably because the reservoir is in Norman.

He added, however, the current name is only for the project, and official names for the reservoir and the dam could be decided by congress after recommendations from a committee, although it would probably take around five years.

Pledger said later, "It

started out as Little River Reservoir . . . and I think this is a real good com-

promise," if that's the name congress selects a few years from now.

10/30/62

Homes Parade Opens Sunday

More than 21 new homes will be on display for a week beginning Sunday in the Norman Home Builders Association's annual Parade of Homes.

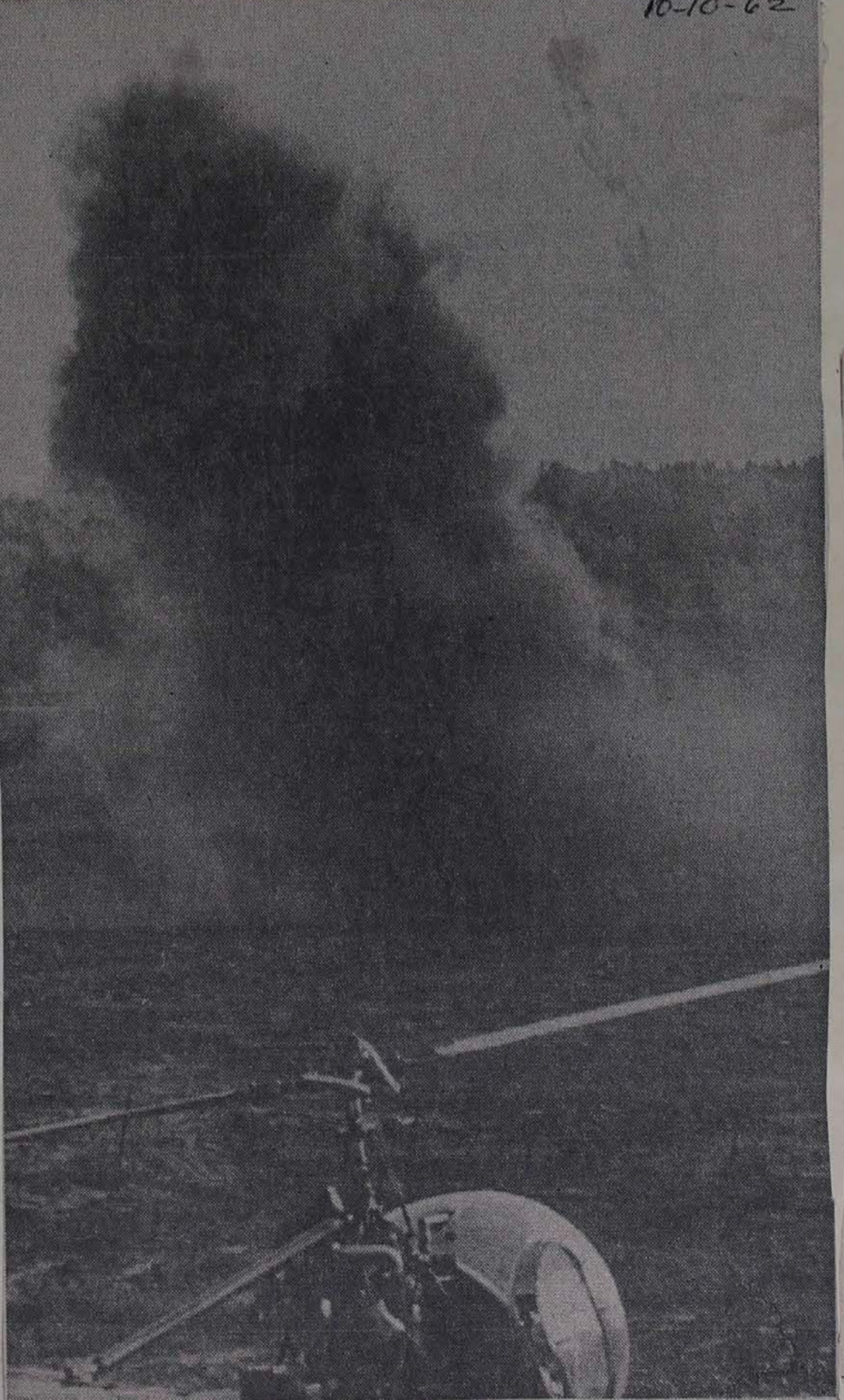
The homes — three of them completely furnished — will open from 2 p.m. until dark at Bruce Drake, president of home builders, said door prizes will be given at some of homes, depending on the individual builder.

Wednesday is the deadline entering homes in the parade, said, and more are expected to be entered. Drake said this year's parade is the largest in the history of the association. The homes will range in price from about \$12,500 to about \$40,000.

Homes already registered for the parade are at 2617 Acacia Ave., 2608 Trenton Road, 2601 Beverly Hills St., 2602 Avondale Drive, 704 Long Circle, 1610 Hollywood Ave., 1801 Westbrooke Terrace, 1817 Westbrooke Terrace, 902 McCall Drive, 309 Meridian Drive, 2629 Acacia, 1209 Magnolia St., 1425 Hollywood Ave., 1 Sycamore St., 433 Trenton Road, 426 Merkle Drive, 2222 Crestmont Ave., 2110 Crestmont Ave., Forrest Drive, 2601 S. Boulevard and 511 Inwood Road. Drake said two or three others are tentatively entered.

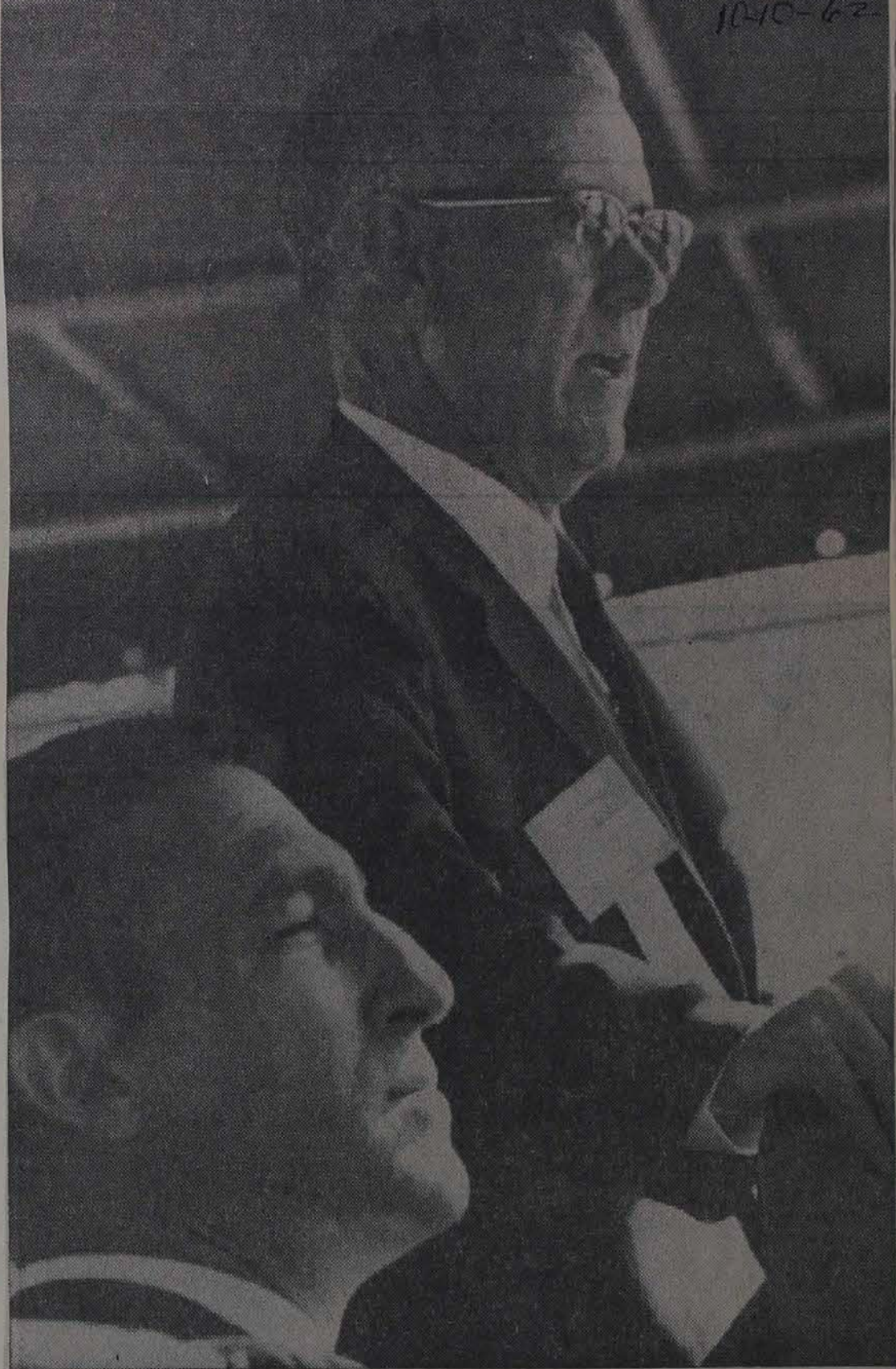
Serving with Drake on the Parade of Homes Committee are C. O. Abercrombie, Irl Sell and James Jansing.

10-10-62



BLAST OFF—Twenty pounds of TNT mixed with 50 pounds of flour explode and ground is broken for the Norman Reservoir project in east Norman. (Story and other pictures on Page 2) (Transcript Photo)

10-10-62



OFFICIAL GREETING—Harold S. Cooksey (right), master of ceremonies, welcomes a large crowd to Tuesday's ground breaking for the Norman Reservoir project. Seated is Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall.

Claims Foe Industry

10/30/62

He said this alarmed industry to the extent that the Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association conducted its own analysis of the state's financial condition and arrived at the conclusion the next legislature will have about \$20 million more to appropriate from the general fund than the 1961 session — instead of \$4 million less as officially estimated by the state Board of Equalization.

Bellmon told the executives that as governor he would reorganize the Department of Commerce and Industry and give it new responsibilities for coordinating the state's attempt to attract new plants.

He said Oklahoma's big problem is that it depends too much on government jobs and government handouts.

Reservoir Officials Have One Hectic Day

Tuesday was a hectic day for officials in charge of ground-breaking ceremonies for the Norman Reservoir project.

The program's final event did not go off quite as planned.

The ground was to be broken by a TNT explosion at the site of the dam following a speech by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall. However, after Harold Cooksey, master of ceremonies, directed the crowd's attention to the site, marked by green - star cluster flares and smoke pots, the TNT charge failed to explode.

Changes were made in the wiring, and about 15 minutes later, the ground was broken with a blast.

Col. J. L. Farmer, division trains officer with the 45th Division, in charge of setting off the blast, explained the delay.

"I'm still not sure what went wrong," Farmer said, "but, apparently, people walking around the back of the speakers' platform must have stepped on and loosened some of the wires.

"We had made such definite plans not to allow anybody back of the platform, but go the best laid plans of mice and men," Farmer laughed.

He also explained that the coordinator of the blast, Capt. George F. Hawkins of Company C of the 120th Engineer Battalion in Norman was relieved of his duties just before the ceremony. Hawkins left the scene to join his expectant wife in Norman Municipal Hospital.

"The baby was born between an 11:30 a.m. communications check and the start of the ceremony (2 p.m.)," Farmer said. "But he came back to share the blame with us."

Another unforeseen delay occurred. Udall's plane was late arriving at Oklahoma City's Will Rogers Field. He was rushed by helicopter to the Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club, arriving too late for a luncheon with dignitaries. But after quickly shaking

hands with members of a greeting committee, talking with the press and rushing through lunch, Udall did arrive at the ground-breaking site on time.

Udall, Sen. Mike Monroney and officials from Norman, Del City and Midwest City, along with state officials, took part in the ceremony which attracted a crowd estimated at 700.

Unable to attend was Sen. Robert S. Kerr, who was detained in Washington, D. C., because of important legislative business. Reps. John Jarman and Tom Steed also had to remain in Washington. Lt. Gov. George Nigh was unable to attend due to a previous engagement.

Dignitaries participating in the ground breaking itself were Udall; Monroney; William Morgan Cain, president of the Water Development Foundation of Oklahoma; Dr. Lloyd Church of the Oklahoma Resources Board which governs state park facilities; D. H. Grisso, president of the board of directors of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District;

Mrs. Pearl Sayre, Ardmore, former Republican national committeewoman; Leon W. Hill, regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation, Amarillo, Tex.; Norman Mayor Earl Sneed; Del City Mayor Ray Trent, and Midwest City Mayor Marion C. Reed.

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9-5-62

Area Cleared For Dam Base

Land has been cleared for all of the dam foundation of the Norman Reservoir Project, Charles Clark, Bureau of Reclamation project engineer, said today.

Clark said workers at the dam site have been concentrating on clearing and excavation work for the past two weeks.

"Clearing has been completed for the spillway and outlet works and all of the relocation of Oklahoma 9 included in the present contract," Clark said. "Progress also has been made in clearing for borrow areas and excavation work has started for the spillway and outlet works."

Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Oklahoma Water Users Association, said he is waiting for information from Sen. Mike Monroney concerning groundbreaking ceremonies for the reservoir.

Cooksey said the proposed date for the observance is Oct. 9. Oklahoma's congressional delegation and other Washington dignitaries have been invited to the event.

9-17-62

Dam Rites Due Oct. 9

The formal ground-breaking ceremony for the Norman Reservoir project has been set definitely for Oct. 9, Harold S. Cooksey, president of the Central Oklahoma Water Users Association, said today.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall has been invited to attend, but Cooksey said he will not know before Tuesday whether Udall will be on hand. Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney and Rep. John Jarman will be here, he added.

Plans for the ceremony, to be held at the dam site on the Little River, are to be announced later, Cooksey said.

9-25-62

Udall Due at Dam Rites

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall will be the main speaker at the ground-breaking ceremony for the Norman Reservoir Oct. 9, it was announced today.

The Washington committee for the ceremony — Sens. Robert S. Kerr and Mike Monroney and Rep. John Jarman — said Udall had accepted the invitation to participate. He will arrive in Norman about noon Oct. 9 for a dinner at the Twin Lakes Country Club for Oklahoma congressmen and other dignitaries here for the ground breaking.

The ceremony will be at 2 p.m. at the cleared observation

area on Oklahoma 9, one-half mile west of the former Little Axe School.

Udall, the grandson of a Mormon pioneer who founded St. Johns, Ariz., served as U. S. representative from Arizona until named to the Cabinet post by President Kennedy. A strong supporter of Indian affairs and of public power development, he is married and the father of six children.

Born in St. Johns in 1920, he received his education at Eastern Arizona Junior College, and the University of Arizona, where he played varsity basketball in 1940, '41 and '46. The World War II years were spent

as a bombardier-gunner in the Air Force in Europe.

Since becoming secretary of the interior he has traveled widely about the country, visiting and camping out in remote, hard-to-reach areas that are parts or prospective parts of the national park system.

Clearing of land for the 6,070-acre Norman Reservoir and work on the relocation of Highway 9 began Aug. 1 and is proceeding steadily at the site. The Bureau of Reclamation has taken over the Little Axe School as its field headquarters, and the field office of the Cosmos Construction Co.,

(See Page 2, Column 4)

Udall To Talk At Dam Rites

(Continued From Page 1)

prime contractor for the construction, is further west along the highway.

The public observation area on the south side on the highway overlooks the Little River valley and the site of the 7,420-foot-long dam that will back up water along Little River and Hog Creek, the two principal arms of the lake.

The dam which will cost between \$18 million and \$19 million is scheduled to be closed late in 1964, and the first water from the reservoir should be delivered to the participating cities — Norman Midwest City and Del City — in July 1965.

All of the Oklahoma congressional delegation, among others, has been invited to the ceremony, and most are expected to attend. Udall will be introduced by Kerr.

11-7-62
Radio Man New

Work on Dam Due Next Week

Bulldozers will move in Tuesday and work will begin Wednesday on the clearing of land for the Little River dam, a representative of the contractor said today.

The Cosmo Construction Co., Oklahoma City, received official notice Wednesday from the Bureau of Reclamation to proceed with work on the \$18 million Norman Reservoir project. Cosmo has the \$3.7 million contract for the dam itself.

"The first step will be clearing operations by our own crew," a spokesman for the company said. "We plan to move in dozers there Tuesday and begin work Wednesday on the observation area."

This is an area south of Oklahoma 9 and east of Little Axe that will be used as construction headquarters and as a point from which visitors may watch the building of the dam.

O. L. (Bud) Harris, Norman subcontractor who will do excavation work and relocate Oklahoma 9, probably also will begin operations next week, the contractor said. The L&A Contracting Co., Hattiesburg, Miss., which will do most of the concrete work on outlets and spillways, is expected to start work about 30 to 45 days later.

A formal ground-breaking ceremony tentatively is scheduled around Oct. 1, with various state dignitaries, congressional leaders and others on hand. Cosmo's contract calls for completion of the dam in 28 months, and the entire project is expected to be completed sometime in 1965.

Pollution Prevention Studied by Officials

Methods of preventing pollution of the Norman Reservoir were explored at length in Norman Wednesday by representatives of five cities, the state Health Department and the Bureau of Reclamation.

About the only conclusions reached were that the problem is destined to become increasingly acute and complex and prevention must begin immediately.

On hand when the session started at 11 a.m. were City Managers Joe Parris, Norman; Bob Quinlan, Midwest City; Huey Long, Del City, and Don Dodge, Moore; Tom Adams, representing the Oklahoma City manager's office; Charles Clark, project engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation; Calvin Grant and L. J. Fox of the Health Department and Ray Patton, Norman planning director.

Adams and Clark left after lunch, but the rest continued the conference until 3:30.

Grant, director of the Health department's environmental sanitation division, said \$17,000 had been set up by the Reclamation Bureau as part of the cost of the lake project for a

survey by the Health Department. In addition, the federal government has granted Norman a little over \$6,000, or half of the cost of extending its general plan to cover the reservoir area.

The two agencies agreed to coordinate their planning and that the survey of pollution sources and methods of disposing of the pollution must be completed in no more than a year.

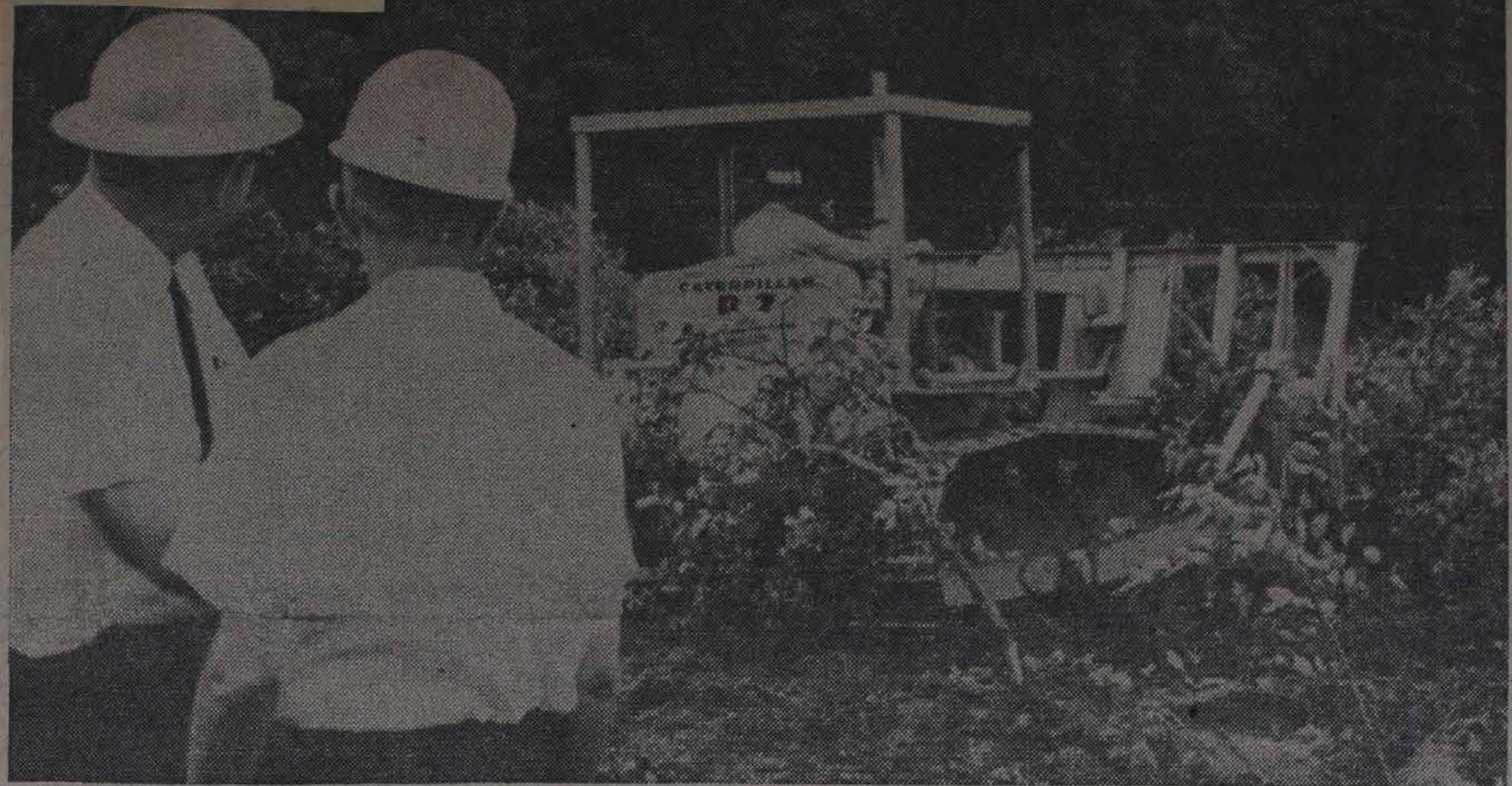
The two major problems in connection with development of the 6,000-acre reservoir are expected to be the density of development and the control of industrial wastes, Patton said.

The city's study will include a land-use survey, a master street plan, planning for public facilities and recreation and the zoning of the water surface itself for various uses — fishing, boating, swimming, etc. It will take into account the probability of the Project HOW canal bringing barge traffic from the Arkansas River.

The Health Department's study will be aimed at coming up with recommended standards for sewage disposal in the lake area and methods of enforcing such standards.

The group generally agreed that one man should be employed full-time to enforce the sanitation regulations. If legal technicalities can be worked out, he probably will be employed by the state Health Department, with that agency's authority, but will be paid by the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District and have his office in Norman.

Norman. The entire project is expected to be finished in 1965. Federal and state leaders and dignitaries will be present for official ground-breaking ceremonies, tentatively scheduled around Oct. 1.



THE WORK BEGINS—R. F. Taylor, vice president of Cosmo Construction Co., and J. O. Monserud, field engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, watch one

of three bulldozers which this morning began clearing work for the initial phase of construction of the Little River Dam. (Transcript Photo)

Work Begins on Reservoir Project

Multi-ton bulldozers and a handful of men this morning began work on the \$18 million Norman reservoir project.

Despite a steady rain, work began about 7 a.m. on the clearing of land for the visitors' observation area, about a 2-acre tract one-half mile west of Little Axe School.

General preparation of the observation area is the initial phase of the huge dam project, a \$3.7 million responsibility of Cosmo Construction Co., Oklahoma City.

After the three large dozers have finished clearing operations, the area will be surfaced

with gravel. The completed overlook area will allow all interested persons to watch the major construction on the lower portion of the dam.

Dick Taylor, a vice president and engineer with Cosmo, said the visitors' area is certain to be ready within two weeks.

"The observation area will give people a pretty good view southeast to the lower part of the dam," Taylor said. "We will be very happy to have this place loaded down with people, but we do need cooperation from viewers to stay in this area and out of the work area. Otherwise, it not only hinders

the work, and it can be dangerous."

Taylor said there will be all-weather access into the area with a graveled parking area and drive. Pedestrian walkways will be lightly graveled.

"As soon as possible we will start excavation work for the dam's structural outlets and spillway. This is a sizeable portion of the contract. As the dam closure section is made, we can utilize part of the structure itself in care and control of the water."

He said a major problem is diversion and care of not only water from Little River, but of

ground water. "We must obtain proper core trench construction which is the key to preventing water from leaking through the dam."

Taylor, no relation to the company's other vice president, Jack Taylor, met with contractors and Bureau of Reclamation personnel Tuesday to discuss technical problems and plans to be followed on the contract. Harris Construction Co., a Norman subcontractor, will begin clearing operations this week for excavation work on the relocation of Oklahoma 9. Another subcontractor, L&A Contracting Co.,

(See Page 2, Column 5)

Dam Clearing In Third Week

Cline Takes Over As Project Manager

Clearing operations continued east of Norman this morning as men and bulldozers began their third week of work on the Norman Reservoir project.

General preparations on the long-range dam project include the clearing of land for a visitors' observation area, the outlet works area and a portion of the relocation of Oklahoma 9.

Lacks Resurfacing
Rex Cline, former city engineer who began work today as project manager of the reservoir for the Cosmo Construction Co., said the observation area, a 2-acre tract one-half mile west of Little Axe School, will probably be completed within the next two or three weeks.

"It has been cleared, so all it lacks is the gravel resurfacing," Cline said. "But, until we knock down timber south of the area, the resurfacing will have to wait."

The general area for the outlet works is southwest of the school. Workers are currently clearing, stacking and burning trees in the area.

Road Work Starts
Harris Construction Co., a Norman subcontractor, has begun clearing land to prepare for excavation work on Oklahoma 9. The work is being conducted nearly one-half mile west of the school on land adjoining the present highway.

Cline said construction on his field office will begin this week

(See Page 2, Column 6)

Malone Named Board Member

John F. Malone, manager of the Norman Chamber of Commerce, was named Friday to the Board of Regents of the Institute for Organization Management at the University of Houston.

Malone, a graduate of the institute, has been in Houston taking post-graduate work for the last two weeks. He was appointed to the regent's post by the United States Chamber of Commerce.

City Building Permits Set Record for July

Norman construction, as reflected by building permits issued by the city inspector's office, set a record for July.

Permits issued for both residential and commercial building totaled \$666,715, the third largest monthly total this year. July has been topped only by January, \$1,044,000 and June, \$955,921.50. The best total for any previous July was \$654,755 in 1958.

Norman Post Office Receipts dropped in July to \$32,038.59, the lowest since November 1959. The

low in August but will gain once fall classes begin at the University. Receipts for the first seven months came to \$167,476.57.

The major portion of July's construction total was for 47 new residences, \$628,175. This includes 6-unit apartment house to be built by Bill Bishop at 1526 Lincoln St. for \$24,000. The remainder of the total was for 26 residential additions, \$33,670, and 4 additions to businesses, \$4,870. The average residence value was \$13,365.

The July figure brought con-

Bond Proposal Report Cites Norman Needs

New water and sewage facilities are necessary if Norman is to take care of its growth and adequately service the people of the city, City Manager Joe Parris said Tuesday night.

Parris gave the City Com-

city and lines in the old part of town which are causing trouble, such as leaks.

"Five additional water wells are included in our plans to take care of the city until the Norman Reservoir is finished. I

would amount to \$1,720,000 for water and \$1,153,000 for sewage facilities.

Parris said over-crowded conditions at the hospital have resulted in a need for enlargement. The first phase of the

Report Cites City Needs

(Continued From Page 1)

standpoint, is not in very good shape. I think \$200,000 would adequately take care of our needs.

"A civic center is an expensive item and maybe should be delayed at this time, along with future park plans.

Reservoir Work Enters 3rd Week

(Continued From Page 1)

and should be ready for opening early next week. It will be located about one-fourth mile due west of Little Axe School.

"L&A Contracting Co. (Hattiesburg, Miss.) should be here in the next couple of weeks to set up plans for concrete work," Cline said. "Excavation work should begin before then."

Cline's principal job is to oversee construction of the dam and coordinate the work of Cosmo, the main contractor, with that of the subcontractors.

you're
INVITED

TO THE

Ground Breaking Ceremony

FOR

NORMAN RESERVOIR PROJECT

2:00 P.M. Tuesday, October 9

On Highway 9, 1/2 Mile West of
Little Axe School



—PRINCIPAL SPEAKER—

STEWART L. UDALL, Secretary of the Interior

Also hear: U.S. Senator Robert S. Kerr

U.S. Senator Mike Monroney

U.S. Representative John Jarman

Welcome by Norman Mayor—Earl Sneed

Invocation by Rev. Hub Collier, Del City

Music by Del City and Midwest City High School Bands

PLENTY OF PARKING SPACE—BUS AVAILABLE TO TAKE PEOPLE TO OBSERVATION AREA

This advertisement sponsored as a public service by:

BUD HARRIS CONSTRUCTION CO.

1030 North Flood—Norman, Oklahoma

1-21-64

\$3.2 Million Requested To Complete Little River Reservoir

A request for \$3,221,000 for completion of the Little River Reservoir is part of a federal reclamation program proposed today by President Johnson for the coming fiscal year.

The proposals, amounting to \$313,518,287, represent a reduced program and a cutback of about \$38 million in the present construction rate for irrigation and electric power projects.

The figure for the \$18 million Norman project, however, apparently is the full amount ne-

cessary for completion of the reservoir.

In the last three years, Congress actually had appropriated \$15.8 million of the total cost, leaving only \$2.2 million needed for completion. But Charles Clark, Bureau of Reclamation engineer in charge of the project, said this does not mean the cost of the project has risen.

"The actual expenditures in a fiscal year do not always total as much as the appropriation," he explained, "and funds carry

forward from one year to the next. This is undoubtedly the balance after adjustments for the amounts so far paid to the contractor.

"The total cost of the project has not increased; I can assure you of that."

Johnson's proposals requested construction funds for about 60 projects, including three in Oklahoma. The other two are the Ar-buckles project, \$3.5 million, and the Washita project, \$70,000 for

drainage and minor construction.

Army Engineer water projects in Oklahoma totaling \$28,707,000 also were recommended today by President Johnson.

Projects in adjacent states, with a bearing on Oklahoma, increase that total by several million dollars.

The Engineers' program recommended provides money for 34 new construction starts, including Webbers Falls lock and dam in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma projects were:
Construction: Broken Bow Reservoir \$4.8 million; Eufau-

Law Works

It's the law of averages: You make fewer mistakes if you do less work.

la Reservoir \$3 million; Keystone Reservoir \$6 million; Pine Creek Reservoir \$3.5 million; Robert S. Kerr lock and dam \$6 million; Webbers Falls lock and dam \$1 million.

Planning: Birch Reservoir \$155,000; Copan Reservoir \$150,000; Hugo Reservoir \$150,000; Key Reservoir \$200,000; Optima Reservoir \$162,000; Skiatook Reservoir \$225,000.

Surveys: Poteau River, in Arkansas as well as Oklahoma,

\$79,000; Red River Sherwood Reservoir \$25,000.

Operation and maintenance \$3,261,000.

Projects in neighboring states with a bearing on Oklahoma include:

In Arkansas: Construction — Arkansas River bank stabilization in Arkansas and Oklahoma \$15 million; Arkansas River navigation locks and dams in Arkansas and Oklahoma \$42 million.

In Kansas: Surveys — Arkansas, Hutchinson-Cimarron River, Kansas and Oklahoma, \$50,000; Cimarron River, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Colorado \$60,000.

In Louisiana: Surveys — Red River below Denison Dam, in Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas, \$300,000.

In Texas: Surveys — Arkansas-Red River pollution study in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas \$125,000.

Cases Heard

1-23-64

City, Indian Bureau Agree on Controls

Norman and Indian Bureau officials agreed Wednesday on methods of attempting to control pollution of the Little River reservoir by Indians living in the reservoir area.

As a result, charges of moving in or building a house without a permit, filed against two Indians, were dismissed at the request of City Attorney Fielding Haas.

Identical charges had been filed against eight others in the reservoir area. Two of these came to trial before Municipal Judge Cassidy Wright Wednesday night. The judge found one innocent and the other guilty but suspended his \$10 fine.

Another similar case, filed some time ago against the operators of Gordo's Pizza, also came to trial last night. Wright found them guilty of building a structure without a permit, fined them \$5 and \$5 court costs and suspended the fine.

The actions brought sharp comments today from Haas, who announced he will seek an amendment providing for a mandatory fine of at least \$20 for violations of the building code.

Charges originally were filed against 10 persons accused of building or moving houses into the reservoir area without obtaining city permits. Two were dismissed because of errors in the land descriptions. Two failed to appear for trial, and Hugh P. Mabe, assistant city attorney, said bench warrants had been issued for their arrest.

Two persons came to court last week and pleaded guilty to the charges. One was fined \$5 and \$5 costs and the other \$10 and \$5 costs. In a court session that lasted almost until midnight Wednesday, Wright found one man guilty, fined him \$10 and

(See Page 2, Column 9)

Indian Bureau, Norman Agree On Controls

(Continued From Page 1)

costs and suspended the fine.

The other he found innocent because the defendant testified he had started clearing of the land and drilling of a well before his land was annexed to the city. Wright ruled that these actions constituted the start of construction.

The remaining two charges were dismissed after a conference Wednesday between Haas and three representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Haas said the bureau officials "are as interested as we are in preventing pollution of the lake." They agreed to institute immediate action, he added, toward obtaining the aid of the U.S. Public Health Service and other federal agencies to provide sanitary facilities in the lake area for Indians living on Indian land.

These facilities probably will consist mainly of outhouses, since most of the Indian dwellings cannot be adapted to plumbing, Haas said, but the outhouses will meet federal requirements for waste disposal.

Enforcement Promised

"The parties agreed that the end result of this compromise is to satisfy the city's need and also that of the federal government in seeing to it that the lake is protected, insofar as the Indian lands are concerned," Haas said. "It will make it unnecessary for the city to attempt further enforcement of its ordinances as they affect Indian lands."

But both he and City Manager Joe Parris stressed that the ordinances will be strenuously enforced against all others in the city who violate the building code.

Mandatory Fine Sought

In this connection, he announced that he will recommend to the City Commission at its next meeting that a mandatory fine of not less than \$20, which cannot be suspended or reduced by the judge, be required upon conviction of a violation of the building code. In addition, he said, the amended ordinance would provide for a mandatory additional fine of \$1 a day for each day it is proved the violation had been allowed to exist.

"It makes it mighty difficult to try to enforce the building code when the fines are so small or are suspended," he said. "The time spend in gathering evidence for these cases amounts to a lot of money spent by the city, only to have the fine suspended or reduced to practically nothing."

Del City Delays Road Request

1-22-64

More Information Asked by Council

Three other communities today were awaiting action by Del City on a resolution requesting that the route for the proposed Sooner Expressway be placed on the federal aid secondary highway system.

Norman, Midwest City and Oklahoma City adopted resolutions Jan. 14 after they had been passed earlier by the Chambers of Commerce of the three cities. They were to be sent on to the county commissioners of Oklahoma and Cleveland counties after action by the Del City Council.

Protection Measure

But Norman City Manager Joe Parris said Tuesday he had been told the Del City officials declined to take action on the resolution at their meeting Monday night. They asked instead that Parris and John F. Malone, Norman C of C manager, appear before them to give them further information.

The resolution emphasizes that the cities and counties are not asking at this time that the four-lane expressway be constructed. It asks simply that it be placed on the federal system so that funds may be made available for engineering and so the right-of-way be protected from an

Recognition For Garrison

1-14-64
Dinner Due May 14

Reservoir Work Bids Due

1-28-64

Bids on the last major work at the Little River Reservoir, the construction of basic recreational facilities will be opened at 10 a.m. Feb. 18 at the Bureau of Reclamation office in Norman.

The work will include construction of 6.3 miles of roads in the main park areas, three boat-launching ramps with parking lots, two comfort stations and the drilling of five wells. Two of these will be electrically operated for the comfort stations and the other three, in the picnic areas, will have hand pumps.

The roads are to be built into Indian Point Park on the west side of the Hog Creek arm and the north side of the lake; Clear Bay Park southwest of the dam between the lake and new Oklahoma 9; the Little Axe area on

the east side of Hog Creek, about one-half mile west of the former Little Axe School, and in Sentinel Rock Park, on both sides of old Oklahoma 9 at the west end of the lake.

The main roads leading into the Indian Point, Clear Bay and North Sentinel Rock areas will have bituminous surfaces, while auxiliary roads off these will be graveled.

The comfort stations will be at Indian Point and Clear Bay. Each will have two rest rooms and showers, an outdoor drinking fountain and double sink and be equipped with septic tanks for sewage disposal.

The launching ramps are to be at the north end of Indian Point, the west side of Clear Bay and the north side of North Sentinel Rock. In addition, old Oklahoma 9 where it enters the

water on both sides of the Hog Creek arm will be used as launching ramps.

Parking lots will be provided near each ramp, and picnic areas are to be cleared of smaller trees and brush.

Erection of signs and barricades also will be part of the contract. The contractor will have 190 calendar days from receipt of the work order to complete the project.

Charles Clark, project engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, emphasized that the facilities to be provided under the contract are only the minimum basic requirements. The State Planning and Resources Board has signed a contract for the development and operation of the recreation areas and it will add picnic tables and other facilities as funds become available.

Lake May Be Water-Supply Canal Terminal

The clear possibility that the Little River Reservoir may provide terminal storage for fresh water from southeastern Oklahoma was raised by a report released Wednesday by the Corps of Engineers.

But don't rush out with bucket and dipper just yet; the project is at least 20 years and \$263 million away.

The report was on a survey of the Central Oklahoma Project, a program originally conceived as a navigation canal from the Arkansas River

through the Eufaula Reservoir to the Oklahoma City area and a combination barge and water-supply canal from southeastern Oklahoma to the same area.

The Army engineers recommended construction of the northern navigation canal, a 175-mile-long channel 9 feet deep and 150 feet wide from Eufaula Reservoir along the Deep Fork River to Arcadia, northeast of Oklahoma City. It estimated the initial cost of this project at \$400,163,000, of which the

government would pay \$345,300 and local interests \$54,863,000.

But the survey showed a combination navigation and water-supply canal from southeastern Oklahoma would not be feasible, the engineers said. They recommended instead a water-conveyance canal only, 163 miles long, with six pump stations in place of locks to lift the water the 804 feet between the Hugo and Boswell reservoirs in southeastern Oklahoma and the Elm Creek (now Stanley Draper) Reservoir north of Norman.

The engineers estimated the initial cost of this project at \$263,209,000, all of which would be repaid to the federal government, with interest, by the local agencies involved. And the report made it clear that construction is a long way off.

"The apparent first need for any part of the (water) conveyance system is 1980," it said, "and full use is not anticipated until 2055. Between now and 1980 many factors could cause a delay of this first need."

The map accompanying the

report shows the proposed canal, 26 feet wide and 18 feet deep, circling the west edge of the Little River Reservoir to empty into either Draper Reservoir or a proposed new lake on West Elm Creek.

But officials in both Norman and Oklahoma City pointed out that several factors make it both feasible and more likely that the Little River lake will become at least one of the terminal storage reservoirs.

For one thing, Chairman D. (See Page 2, Column 2)



PICTURE OF THE FUTURE?—This Corps of Engineers map shows both the proposed navigation canal (dotted line) from the Arkansas River to central Oklahoma and the proposed water-supply canal

(solid line) from the Hugo, Boswell and Atoka reservoirs to the Norman-Oklahoma City area. Chances are good that the water canal will terminate at the Little River Reservoir.

Lake May Be Water-Supply Canal Terminal

(Continued From Page 1)

H. Grisso of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District pointed out, the Oklahoma City Planning Commission recently announced that it had abandoned plans for a reservoir on West Elm Creek. The

action was taken after strong protests by property owners in the area and the notification by Grisso that the conservancy district holds all water rights in the Little River drainage area, of which West Elm Creek is a part.

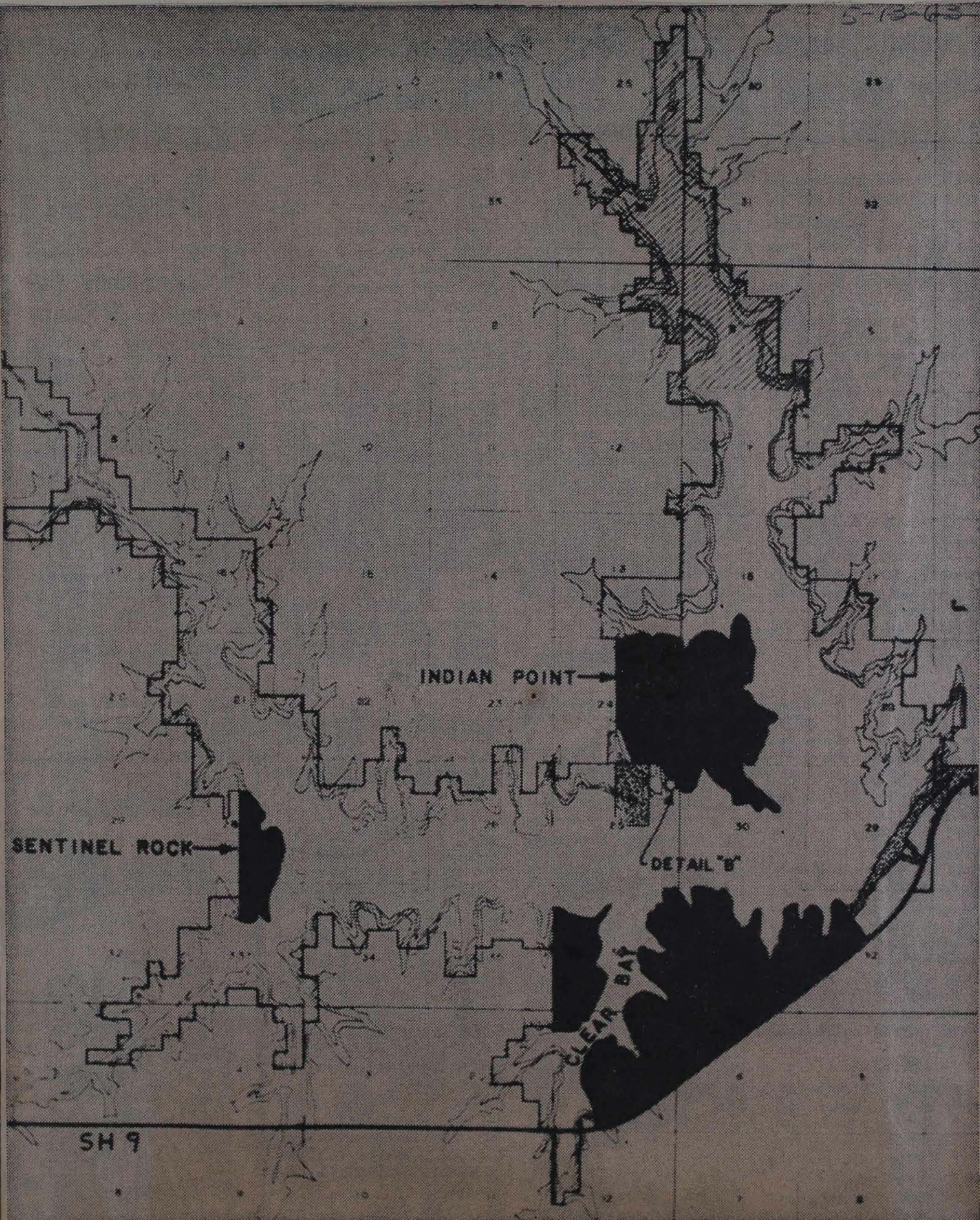
John Malone, manager of the Norman Chamber of Commerce,

and Guy Keith, head of the water resources division of the Oklahoma City Chamber, pointed to another elementary fact. Emptying of the canal into one end of the Little River Reservoir and taking it out the other would eliminate at least six miles of canal construction, saving an estimated \$1.6 million.

The Little River Reservoir also is some 150 feet lower in elevation than the Draper Reservoir. If it were used for storage, smaller pumps than those along the canal could be employed to lift the water to the Draper Reservoir as it was needed.

"And you couldn't ask for pur-

er, cleaner water than will be coming from southeast Oklahoma," Keith added. "I think that ultimately — particularly if the people in Norman take an interest in the proposal — we will come to the use of Draper Lake and the Little River Reservoir for our terminal storage."



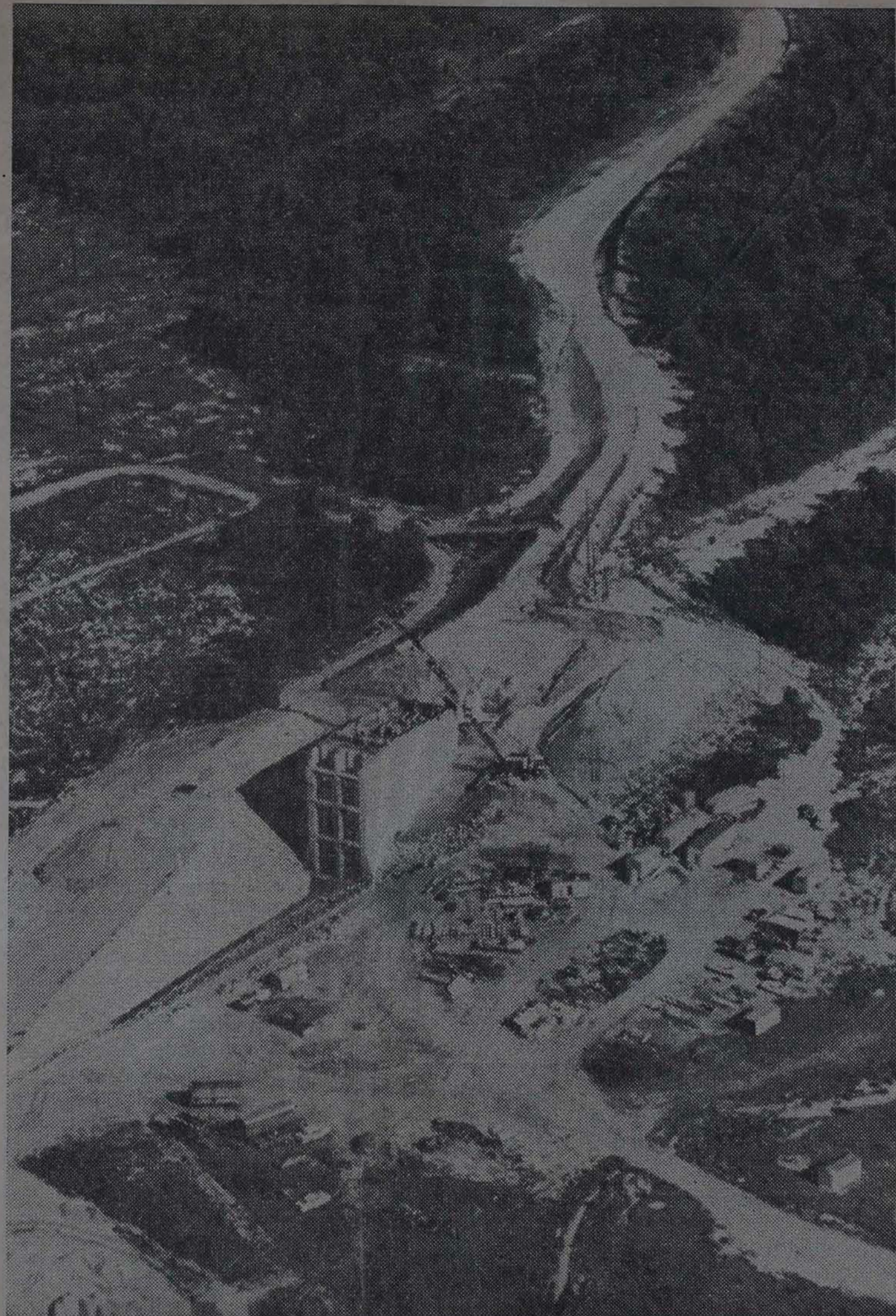
LAKE SHAPES UP—This is the way the Little River Reservoir is to be developed by various agencies. All of the area within the heavy black line, except as otherwise designated, will be controlled by the state Planning and Resources Board. The shaded area at the north end of Hog Creek (top) will be a 1,280-

acre hunting area managed by the state Wildlife Conservation Commission. The circle (Detail "B") will be the OU Biological Station. The black areas will be the major park developments. The dotted areas mark the outlet works and dam to be operated by the master conservancy district.

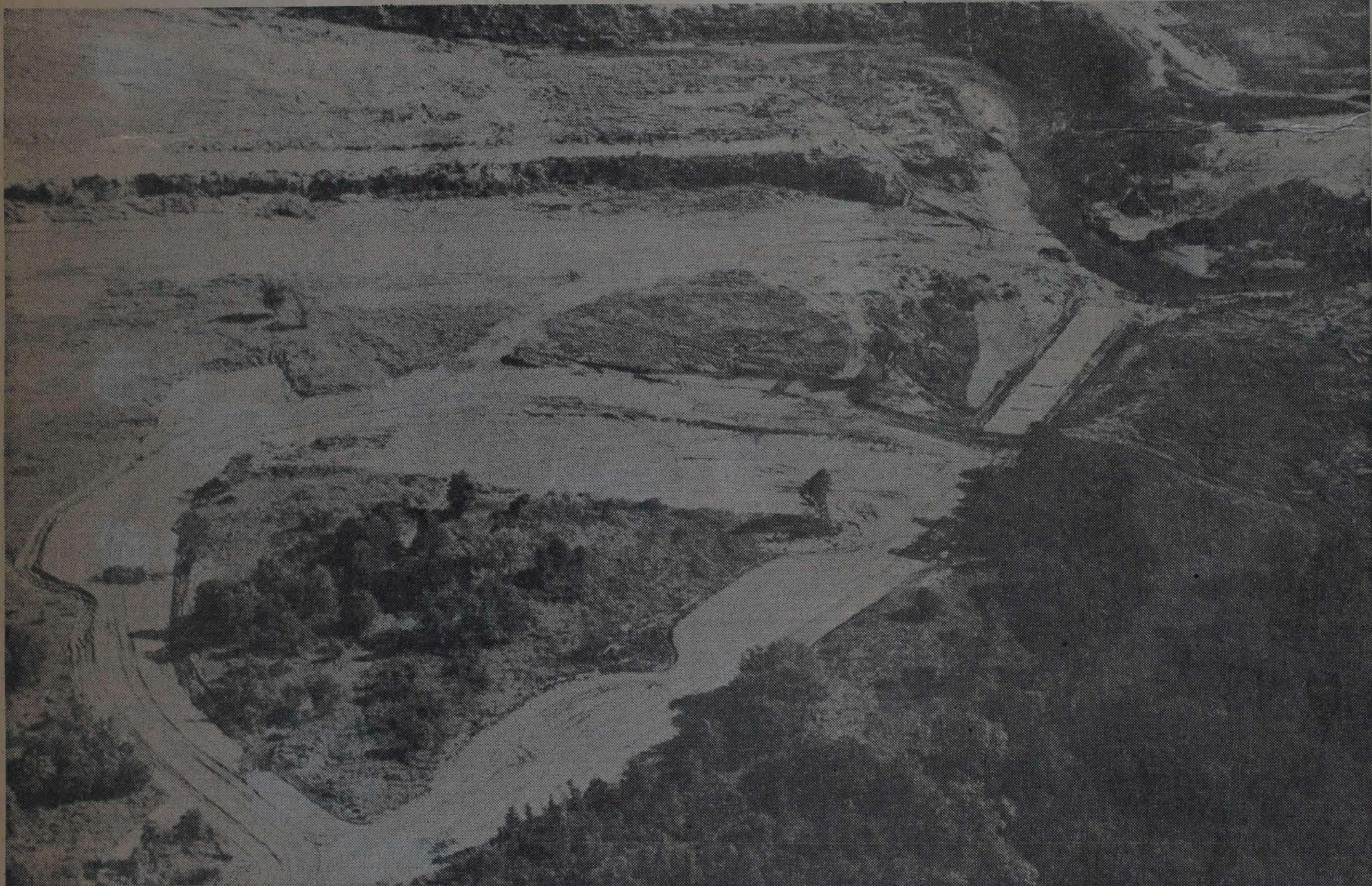
Little River Dam, Park Sites Taking Shape



DAM TAKES SHAPE—This view (left) of the Little River dam along its axis from northeast to southwest shows the round spillway inlet (center foreground) and beyond it the outlet works with its gridded inlet (right) and tower for gate control valves. Only the square structure atop the tower will project above the complet-



ed dam. The dam in the background is nearing its crest and rip-rap is being placed on the upstream side. At right is the pumping plant under construction on the north side of the lake. Light line (center right) is the route of the pipeline heading for Norman, Midwest City and Del City.



SENTINEL ROCK SITE—Workmen are busy clearing parking lots and picnic sites and constructing boat-launching ramps at the three major park areas at the Little River Reservoir. This is the Sentinel Rock park on the west side of Little

River and north of former Oklahoma 9. The concrete boat ramp (top right) is long enough to be used even during low-water periods. Other major park areas are Indian Point and Clear Bay. (Transcript Photos)

9-4-64

Little River Reservoir Closure Due Tuesday

The Little River Reservoir will start impounding water Tuesday morning.

D. H. Grisso, president of the Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District, announced that the first load of dirt to seal off the river and begin closure of the dam will be dumped in place at 9 a.m. Tuesday.

Other members of the district board, Norman city commissioners and other officials have been invited to be on hand for the historic occasion.

Rex Cline, superintendent for the Cosmo Construction Co. in construction of the 7,200-foot-long earthen structure, said the work Tuesday actually will be the start of construction of a small cofferdam. This will hold back the wa-

ter temporarily until the river bed through the main dam is cleaned out, dried and the cut partially filled with compacted earth.

But closure of the cofferdam is regarded by the Bureau of Reclamation as the start of closure of the main dam, he added.

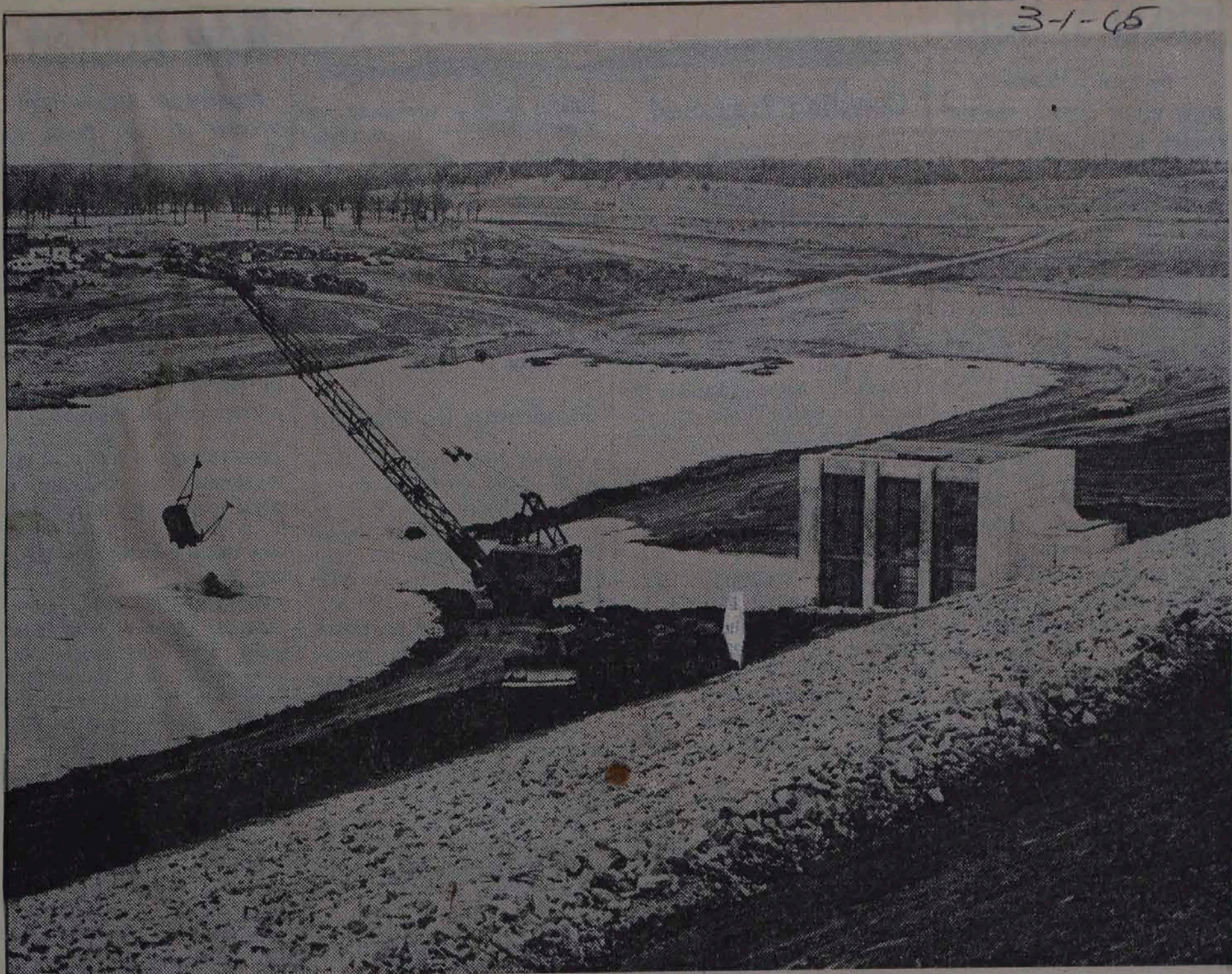
The state Highway Department also is to begin work Tuesday removing the bridge on former Oklahoma 9 across Hog Creek, since water is expected to back up this channel soon after closure.

Once closure is begun, placing of the last of 2,700,000 cubic yards of earth in the main dam will require about three months, barring bad weather, Cline said. George Bailey, acting project engineer for the bureau, estimat-

ed that the dam should be completed by Christmas.

Construction of the dam began Aug. 1, 1962, under a \$3,692,176 base bid by Cosmo. The total cost of the project will be about \$18 million, including pipelines, pumping plant and relift stations that are not scheduled for completion until next summer.

Although intended primarily as a water supply for Norman, Midwest City and Del City, the 6,000-acre lake is expected to become one of the state's major recreation areas. Basic recreational facilities—camp grounds, boat-launching ramps, parking lots, access roads, etc.—have been completed and will be augmented by the Planning and Resources Board.



READY FOR BUSINESS—Water begins to flow toward the closed outlet works (right) of the Little River dam as a dragline chews away a small cofferdam at the reservoir this morning. Water now will begin

backing up behind the dam itself (foreground). An overlook that has been a popular point for watching the dam construction is at upper left. (Transcript Photo)

Bring on the Rain!

Workers Close Gates Of Little River Dam

Gates on the Little River dam officially were closed this morning.

George Bailey, acting project engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, said the four hydraulically operated gates in the dam's outlet works were closed at the request of the contractor, the Cosmo Construction Co.

The contractor immediately began work tearing out a small cofferdam that had held back water in order to use the dirt to fill in spots on the upstream face of the main dam.

The gates eventually will be operated by an electric motor, Bailey said, but since power has not yet been connected to the shaft house on the crest of the dam, the gates were closed manually today.

The action marks the official closing of the dam and the beginning of the impounding of water, even though water has backed up behind the cofferdam for several months.

Work on the \$18 million reservoir, which is expected to cover 6,070 acres at normal (con-

servation pool) elevation, began in the summer of 1962. Its primary purpose is to provide a municipal water supply for Norman, Midwest City and Del City, although the recreational aspects of the lake are expected to provide the greatest immediate impact.

With normal rainfall the reservoir is expected to take about two years to fill to the normal level of 1,039 feet elevation. At that level water will extend about nine miles west and northwest along Little River and about seven miles north along Hog Creek. The shoreline will be approximately 86 miles long.

The dam is 7,220 feet long at its crest and 80 feet above the stream bed at its highest point. It contains some 2,730,000 cubic yards of compacted earth, and some 10,700 cubic yards of concrete make up the spillway and outlet works.

Of the total cost of the dam, the three project cities are scheduled to repay the federal government about \$12 million, plus interest, over a 50-year period.

Water in Reservoir Reaches 1,004 Feet

The water level in the Little River Reservoir has reached the elevation of 1,004 feet, the Bureau of Reclamation reported today.

The average flood plain elevation of the Little River varies between 995 and 1,000 feet, reported George Bailey, acting project engineer for the bureau, which means that "in general there is 5 to 10 feet of water

out there." The elevation of the deepest point of the river channel, however, is 970 feet, so at this point the lake now is 34 feet deep.

The elevation of the reservoir's water-supply pool, when the water reaches what will be considered its normal level, will be 1,039 feet. At this point the lake will cover 6,070 acres.

The top of the dead-storage pool — the lower level of water that will not be tapped for any purpose — will be at 1,010 feet, and the lake at that point is expected to cover 1,675 acres.

Part of the purpose of the dam is to provide flood control, and it is capable of holding back water up to an elevation of 1,064.5 feet, at which time the lake would more than double in size, covering 13,755 acres.

It is probable, however, that this size flood (which a bureau official once termed "the kind that Noah had") will never occur. The top of the normal flood-control pool would be at 1,049.4 feet, at which point the water would cover 8,738 acres.

The Transcript plans to carry a weekly report on the water elevation while the lake is filling and daily reports on water level after the reservoir reaches its normal elevation.

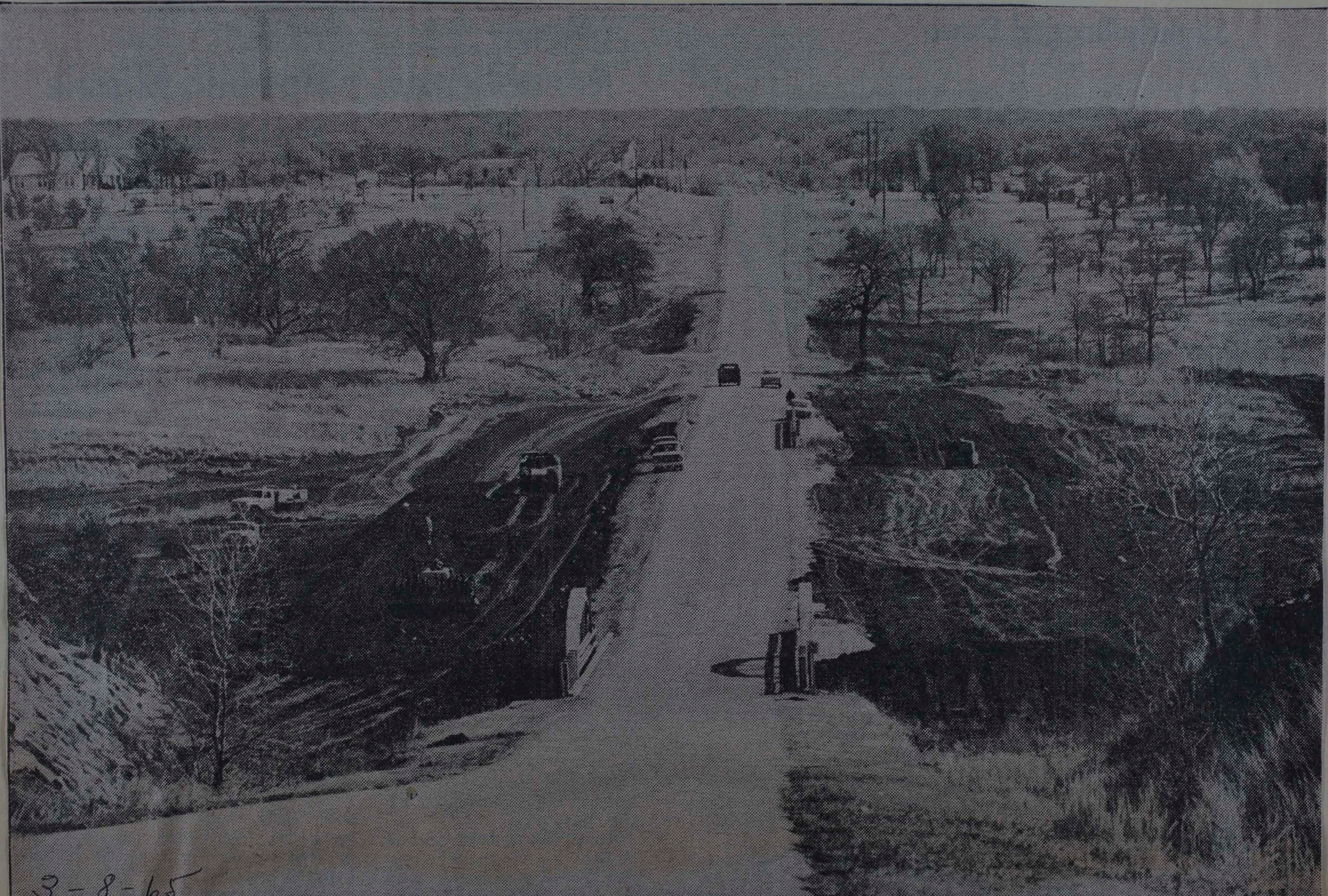
City Award To Be Given

Winners of the fourth Oklahoma Community Improvement Contest will be announced at an awards dinner in Oklahoma City.

Norman, which won among larger cities in last year's contest, is one of 51 communities eligible for the award this year. Others in Division I (17,501 to 75,000 population) include Altus, Ardmore, Duncan, Enid, Lawton, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, Shawnee and Tulsa.

Awards will be presented by Gov. Henry Bellmon to the communities which have shown the greatest improvement in community development during the past year. The contest is cosponsored by the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Commerce and Industry.

About 20 Norman residents are scheduled to attend the awards dinner. The featured speaker will be Leonard T. Reed, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Economic Education in Oklahoma City.



3-8-65

TO PROTECT THE ROAD—Widening of former Oklahoma 9 across the Little River valley is well under way by the Jack Durrett Construction Co., Tahlequah, which will riprap the embankment after the widening is completed. The work, which covers 367

of a mile, will protect the road from washing out after the Little River Reservoir reaches its normal level within a foot of the highway. The project is scheduled for completion about May 1. (Transcript Photo)