

\$400,000 Check To Boulder Dam

The repayment schedule set up by the government for the purpose of returning the cost of Boulder Dam to the United States treasury with interest in fifty years was outdistanced again June 30. A check for \$400,000 was received by the Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, from the City of Pasadena, California, as an advance payment on its Boulder Dam power purchase contract. This brings to \$900,000 the advance payments on these contracts made this month. The city of Glendale, California, having recently paid \$500,000 in advance.

Under its contract, Pasadena was obligated to pay the sum advanced today over a ten year period with four percent interest as a share of the cost of the generating machinery in the Boulder Dam powerhouse now serving four southern California municipalities. With the acceptance if the big check and its deposit in the United States treasury, interest on this obligation was stopped. The check was drawn on the Pasadena city treasury and was transmitted by Miner B. Phillipps, city controller.

Rodent Control Is Undertaken

A determined drive to stamp out rodents in Nevada is now under way, led by the office of the U. S. biological survey in this state.

Control of these animals is important to the prosperity of the state's agriculture and the health of its citizens, according to George E. Holman, district agent of the survey.

Because they are destructive to farm crops and carry diseases which may be contracted by human beings, every effort, he says, should be made to keep them in control.

Rodents which do most damage in this state, Holman explains, are rabbits, chipmunks, ground squirrels, and porcupines.

All rodents live principally on plants, and this is said to be one of the reasons they are such a menace to growing crops.

"Like human beings, they are selective in their choice of food, and eat first the most tasty and palatable plants," the biological survey head says.

"Around the farm or garden, young wheat, oats, barley, alfalfa, corn, or garden plants are selected with care by the rodents, while on the range these plants of most value are taken first.

Only a few rodents in an area do little damage, but they often increase to such numbers around the cultivated tracts and on the better ranges that they destroy from 10 to 20 percent of the crop.

"They are usually most abundant along the ditch banks and in the brush patches bordering the ranches and completely destroy wide strips of grain and hay on the edges of the fields. Frequently they cause breaks in ditches through their burrowings."

In addition to the damage done by the rodents to crops, they are

hosts of serious diseases transmissible to human beings and to other animals, Holman says.

"Rodents are the host for Rocky Mountain spotted fever transmitted to persons by the bite of ticks that carry the disease from the rodent.

Each year Nevada has a number of human infections and some deaths from this disease.

"Rabbits and other small mammals are host for tularemia that may be carried to human beings through the bite of the deer fly or from handling infected animals. Chipmunks and ground squirrels sometimes carry fleas which transmit other diseases to persons."

The drive to stamp out the rodents headed by the biological survey in Nevada has hardly scratched the surface, the survey head states. The job, he says, will require the continued cooperative effort of all concerned and much more money than is now available.

Cooperation actively with the survey in the task are the state of Nevada, the U. S. forest service, the Taylor grazing administration, the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, the University of Nevada agricultural extension service, and farmers and ranchers.

Poisoned grain, which may be purchased at cost, with the survey and the state contributing an equal amount, is available at the offices of agricultural extension agents in the various counties.

Hangovers Are Not Necessary

This is the time of the year when fellow employees cast knowing glances as Mr. John Q. Public drags himself into the office on Monday following his two weeks' vacation. He just couldn't take it.

Long-distance motor tour "hangovers" are entirely unnecessary if a few simple precautions are taken during the trip, advises the Automobile Club of Southern California. Here are a few tips suggested by the U. S. Public Health Service:

Watch your posture. Slumping in your seat causes back-aches; gripping the wheel tightly and holding the body tense produces nerve strain. When driving be attentive but relaxed.

Avoid eye-strain by keeping your head in a restful position for your eyes. In other words, keep your chin up. Eat sparingly while touring, particularly in hot weather. Fruit juices and plenty of cool water, not iced, are beneficial.

The last, and perhaps the most important tip according to the automobile club, is to remember you are not out to establish a record for distance or endurance. Stop and rest at intervals for fatigue is dangerous. Maintain a steady driving pace and avoid spurts or driving steadily at high speed.

Follow these suggestions and you will arrive home as fresh as the proverbial daisy.

Alert Chicago policemen trailed Joseph McLaughlin, who was seen driving a car with one hand and holding a handkerchief over a crying child's mouth with the other. Thinking him a bold kidnaper, the cops halted him, when he explained that the child was his own daughter who had just had a tooth pulled.

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