Rice Milling Process

Interesting

Believing in the Gazette.

Washington, May 23.—Viewed from the air, the vast rice fields stretching from the west to the east, Harrisburg does not present what some might term an unbroken skyline line, but three linear high schools, the courthouse and the Morton Rice Mill are packed against the Crowder's Bridge background. The country area is lush and green, and by the Morton Rice Mill standards is something that many towns can envy. Harrisburg, a river town, was settled in 1841 and owned by the Morton Rice Mill Company, which is at least 100 years old. The mill is secretary and general manager, while the city of Harrisburg, as a city of 10,000, is the home of the mill. The mill handles around 400,000 bushels of rice each season, for which the growers are paid approximately $320,000. While a tonnage increasing rice farmers to “the north end,” where there is an abundance of land suited to the crop, where the mill and the railroad are closer, and where the price of rice is higher, it is predicted that the mill will be able to increase its trade to 400,000 bushels a year soon. The Morton Rice Mill Company is a stock company, representing a number of Oklahoma rice growers and corporations, a member of the National Rice Milling Association. The mill is managed by a board of directors, elected by the stockholders.

Rice Harvest in Northeast

About Ended

Democrat 12-9-39

Rapid Increase in Acreage in Six Counties Yet Unchecked.

Jonesboro—Harvesting of the rice crop in the Arkansas Delta is nearing completion. This year’s harvest, according to the Morton Rice Mill Company, amounted to approximately 1,500,000 bushels, an increase of 300,000 bushels over the harvest of last year. The additional rice this year will be harvested by the Morton Rice Mill Company, which is located at Jonesboro, Arkansas. The rice harvest in the Delta has been estimated to be doubled since last year, due to favorable weather conditions and the introduction of new rice varieties, which have proven to be resistant to rice blast, a disease that has plagued the region in recent years.

New Rice Areas Boom Near McRory

Gazette 2-12-39

McRory, Feb. 12.—Report rice growers have been negotiating with land owners in the McRory area and have purchased 6,000 acres of land for rice this year. Rice was one of the largest crops grown in Woodruff county in 1939, with an estimated yield of 2,500,000 bushels. The crop was harvested by the McRory Rice Mill Company, which is located in McRory, Arkansas. The company has invested heavily in new equipment and irrigation systems to increase the productivity of the rice fields. The new rice areas near McRory have shown promising results and are expected to contribute significantly to the overall rice production in the region.

Rice Water Survey Urged

Democrat 1-4-39

Resources Committee Alarmed at Depletion

By RASCON H. THOMAS

(Democrat Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Jan. 4.—A new attempt to relieve pressure on underground supplies was advocated by agriculture leaders and business men here today. Use of surface waters on an extensive scale, for both irrigation and domestic purposes, was recommended, and business leaders threatened to cut off business unless adequate supplies were assured.

The proposal was advanced by the Resources Committee of the U.S. Senate, in its annual report, transmitted to Congress. According to a deep-well pumping for irrigation in Oklahoma, it was stated, a new well, with a yield of 150,000 bushels of rice, was being built near the town.

Rice growers and business leaders in the area are concerned about the depletion of underground water supplies, which are critical for the survival of the industry. The proposal to increase surface water use is seen as a potential solution to this问题, New rice areas near McRory have shown promising results and are expected to contribute significantly to the overall rice production in the region.
Plan for Irrigation

RESERVOIR FOR GRAND PRAIRIE STIRs Dispute

Would-Repeal Right of Eminent Domain

Gazette 12-25-41

After more than three hours of heated testimony, the Senate Legislative and Drainage Committee returned without recommendation last night a bill by Senator Albert R. Reed of Deer Dei to repeal Act 67 of 1937, granting the right of eminent domain to irrigation projects.

Cheered by a large delegation from the Grand Prairie rice belt, Senator Erwin and Representative W. H. Hidalgo Jr. of Luling introduced the bill arguing for the bill into a result of the Arkansas Irrigation Company's building a 30,000-acre reservoir in Frio County for irrigation purposes.

The bill's supporters charged: That Act 67 was passed when government or the possibility of a need for the development of the right of eminent domain to irrigation projects.

The bill passed by a vote of 34 to 10, the only negative vote coming from the Grand Prairie rice area.

Water Code For State To Be Drafted

Gazette 8-10-40

A proposed water code stabilizing water rights of farmers and reservoir owners in the Grand Prairie rice area was submitted to the 1941 General Assembly by the state Planning Board.

The state Planning Board Committee authorized Chairman H. L. Pinck of Little Rock to appoint the Advisory Committee after it considered a report made by the Department of Agriculture, stating that the state Planning Board would be an agency which would study and recommend legislation protecting the use of surface water to augment ground water supplies now used by rice growers.

The ground water level, which is called the pumping of water from the ground, would be the same as the ground water level of the Grand Prairie rice area.

W. A. Miller, regional counselor for the national agency in Waco, Texas, and Oklahoma, said under a new system, state and national agencies "make each other aware of our construction programs to prevent conflicting or unnecessary projects."

A constitutional amendment requires all federal and state agencies to submit to the Board of the Grand Prairie rice area which is the Department of Agriculture, in the Board, both of which are in the Board's office in the Board.

The board and bureau advised the governor and Congress regarding acceptable proposals. H. L. Pinck of Little Rock to appoint the Advisory Committee after it considered a report made by the Department of Agriculture, stating that the state Planning Board would be an agency which would study and recommend legislation protecting the use of surface water to augment ground water supplies now used by rice growers.

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