

560-acre surface area. Although somewhat smaller than the Longview Reservoir, it will provide another area for water-based recreation.

The flood control plan proposed also includes enlargement and straightening of the main channel of the Little Blue River. This work would begin at a point near the upper end of the work now being done in connection with the levee system of the Missouri River. This point is where Blue Mills Road intersects with Little Blue. Channel work will extend upstream, a distance of about 16 miles. The combination of the channel enlargement along with the construction of the two reservoirs should either solve completely and entirely the flood problem in the basin or so materially reduce the impact as to remove any fear of extensive damage from floods.

Although much of the basin is still devoted to agricultural use, the growing cities of Independence, Raytown, Lee's Summit, Grandview, and others are rapidly converting adjacent segments of the basin to residential and commercial use. Important installations contributing to the growth of the area are Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base and the Lake City Ordnance Plant. It is extremely important that Lake City be afforded protection to prevent damages and possible interruption of operations which under the plan will be accomplished by channel improvements on Fire Prairie Creek and a levee on both Fire Prairie Creek and the Little Blue River.

The citizens of Jackson County last year voted approval of a bond issue which included \$102 million to cover the local share of the Little Blue and other projects. This action emphasizes that our people have proved their willingness to provide the local contribution toward the total cost of this vital project.

The reports of all Federal and State agencies reveal the Little Blue flood control plan is one most deserving of careful and expeditious consideration. To achieve the desirable end objective it should be included in the present omnibus river and harbor and flood control bill by the Public Works Committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. JONES. Next, we have the Nishnabotna River at Exira, Iowa.

NISHNABOTNA RIVER AT EXIRA, IOWA

Colonel SHAFFER. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, this report is concerned with Davids Creek, a tributary of the East Nishnabotna River, above Exira, Iowa, about 15 miles long and draining an area of 61 square miles.

The flood problem at Exira is severe. The 1958 flood resulted in nine deaths and \$650,000 in damage to businesses, homes, transportation facilities, and city property.

The Chief of Engineers recommends construction of a dam and reservoir on Davids Creek for flood control and recreation as an estimated cost of \$2,040,000 for construction and \$15,700 annually for operation and maintenance.

Local interests are required to provide assurances required by the Federal Water Project Recreation Act with respect to recreation cost sharing and hold the United States free from damages due to construction, obtain and resolve any conflicts in water rights, and inform local interests at least annually that the project will not eliminate flooding from the East Nishnabotna River.