

while assessed total valuation has risen 56 percent. However, the area still faces the same flood threat with what, despite local effort, is basically the same drainage and flood control system. Although single floods of recent years have not reached the record magnitude of the 1952 flood, it is still estimated by the Corps of Engineers that average future damages from all floods in the Jordan River Basin, which includes all of the Salt Lake metropolitan area, will reach over \$2 million annually.

The Little Dell reservoir would collect surplus flows from Dell, Parleys, Red Butte, Emigration, and Mill Creeks, which drain an area of about 110 square miles on the western slopes of the Wasatch Mountains and adjoining bench lands within the metropolitan area. Red Butte, Emigration, and Parleys Creek, comprising what is known as the 13th south stream group, provide the major trouble during the flood of 1952. The proposed Little Dell project, therefore, would greatly alleviate, if not entirely eliminate, the possibility of a recurrence of the 1952 flood.

Although Little Dell is primarily for flood control, its water supply benefits should not be minimized. In an independent engineering report on the Little Dell project prepared in 1962 by Berger Associates, Inc., a consulting engineering firm for the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake City, it was noted that based on the estimated population growth, Little Dell or a similar new source of supply would be needed in the Salt Lake metropolitan area by about 1969.

Although earlier planned delivery to Salt Lake County of water from the Bureau of Reclamation's central Utah project has diminished the immediate peril of water shortage somewhat, it is still apparent that to support the projected population growth of Salt Lake County, which is expected to top 1 million by 2020, water from both Little Dell and the central Utah project, as well as other new sources, will be needed.

In this connection, another Berger Associates, Inc., study in 1964 on "Future Requirements for Water in the Salt Lake Metropolitan Area" pointed out that "development of new sources of supply will continue to be needed at 8- to 15-year intervals after 1970—depending on the rate of population growth and the amount of water obtained from each new source of supply." The report went on to recommend immediate construction of the Little Dell project, plus a subscription for central Utah project water.

By all estimates, water from the Little Dell project would be sufficient to sustain a growth of 100,000 persons in the metropolitan area by conserving the surplus flows from the major drainage areas, which are now wasted into Great Salt Lake.

Another important aspect is the recreational benefit which this project will provide to a highly populated urban area. The close proximity of the project to Interstate Highway 80 puts it literally in the backyard of nearly a half million persons.

In summary, I believe the evidence shows conclusively that Federal participation in the Little Dell project is both justifiable and appropriate under provisions of flood control law. Local interests in the area are desirous of this assistance, and are willingly committing themselves to pay their full and fair share of the costs.