

Decrease in Lake Pollution Sought in City Experiment

By LEW ROBERTS
(State Journal Staff Writer)

The City Rivers and Lakes Commission Thursday afternoon approved an experiment to decrease lake pollution from oil in storm sewer water.

The commission also recommended approval of new contracts with bordering towns and villages and the Dane County Park Commission for chemical treatment of lakes and weed removal this summer.

The contracts must be approved by the City Council.

Thayer W. Burnham, city bio-chemist who directs chemical treatment of Madison lakes, outlined his 1954 program.



BURNHAM

He suggested construction of catch basins at the outfalls of major storm sewers in Madison to decrease oil pollution.

To Test Plan

Commissioners agreed to test the plan at one outfall. City Engineer John G. Thompson said the Murray st. outfall would provide easy access for the experiment.

Thompson said oil in storm sewer water comes from a combination of wash rag and motor vehicle drippings. Most discarded crank case oil is taken from garages by the city or various industries for use in dustproofing.

The rivers and lakes program for 1954 will include continued analysis of storm sewers to check water quality, and preparation of plans to enlarge the city boat house on Sayle st.

Asks Storage Facilities

Burnham asked that the city begin looking for boat and equipment storage facilities on the north shore of Lake Mendota.

Burnham said some lake treatment boats require half a day to cross Lake Mendota. He cited

a saving of time and manpower if the boats and gear could be stored on the north shore of the lake when work is being done in that area.

Commissioners said dock space might be acquired on Six Mile creek or Yahara river to serve the purpose.

The lake treatment contracts recommended by the commission provide, as usual, that Madison furnish men and equipment and the county and communities pay labor charge and material costs.

The only change from the 1953 contracts is an increase in daily supervision fee from \$3.50 to \$4.

Program Listed

The 1954 lake treatment program includes the following:

Lakes Waubesa and Kegonsa — chemical treatments and weed removal by mechanical means in accordance with agreements with the Dane County Park Commission.

Lake Monona — copper sulphate treatment of shore line in city for algae control, weed removal in Monona Bay, chlorination of bathing beaches, removal of debris from city shore line, and treatment by contract with bordering towns and villages.

Lake Mendota — chemical treatment of city shore as required, removal of debris from city shore, other work by agreement with bordering towns and villages.

Lake Wingra — chemical treatment of Vilas Park lagoons for weed control.

Tenney Park lagoons — chemical treatment for algae and weed control.

Commissioners said the city's new dredge would apparently be unable again this year to work on the Yahara river mouth at Lake Monona and Wingra creek's mouth on the same lake.

The dredge will be used on the new golf course on the far West Side for part of the summer and in Lake Wingra for the remainder of the operating season.

Last year the dredge, then

owned by a private company, was used in other portions of Monona. There was not time to use it at the mouths of the Yahara and Wingra as the commission asked a year ago.

New Pastor Arrives at Cassville Church

CASSVILLE—The Rev. Alfred VanBenschoten conducted his first church service as pastor of the Cassville Baptist church this week.

Prior to accepting his call here, he was at Hortonville.

Mr. and Mrs. VanBenschoten have five children. The eldest, Alfred Jr., is a missionary in Thailand.

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