

04.04.86

Marked rise in H. Dam Lake water

14.04.86

THE volume of water in the High Dam Lake increased by 3,000 million cubic metres in comparison with last year, according to the Minister of Irrigation, Mr. Essam Radi, who also said that 1,000 million cubic metres of water has been saved during the winter, as the quantity of water released into the irrigation canals reached 3,000 million cubic metres against 4,000 million cubic metres last year.

Speaking at a celebration held in Ismailia yesterday to inaugurate two drainage pumping stations, the Minister moreover said that Dr. Ali Lutfi, the Prime Minister, will open el-Salhia Canal barages project this month, which will help provide water

required for the reclamation of 190,000 feddans in the area.

Mr. Radi added that the Ministry of Irrigation is responsible for providing water for the crop formation decided by the Ministry of Agriculture, and that the tendency for cultivating more land with wheat instead of clover will save water that can be utilised for land reclamation projects.

The Minister also affirmed that a quantity of water ranging between 5,000 and 7,000 million cubic metres can be saved annually from irrigation water, after the implementation of the irrigation system development project on the agricultural land of

the valley.

"By the year 2000 the quantity of water saved will be enough to reclaim an area of land ranging between 2.3 and 2.6 million feddans," said the Minister, pointing out that this area of land will be irrigated with fresh water and recycled drainage water, as well as by subterranean water from the New Valley.

The two pumping stations which were inaugurated yesterday cost LE 4.3 million. The first station will provide Ismailia Irrigation Canal 365 million cubic metres of drainage water annually while the second will improve the drainage system in an area of 5,600 feddans. — GSS

15.04.86

West Nubaria drainage canal inaugurated

THE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Youssef Wali, and Minister of Irrigation, Mr. Esam Radi, yesterday inaugurated the West Nubaria drainage canal which will serve 300,000 feddans of agricultural land on both sides of the canal. It is 60 kilometres long and its costs reached LE 30 million. Later, Dr. Wali held a meeting with the senior officials of the International Centre for Rural Development and discussed with them the irrigation problems in the region. He also visited Mariout Company for Fish and the Agricultural companies affiliated with the Public Sector Authority for Development.

16.04.86

Solar energy to irrigate N. Coast

THE Ministry of Energy chose the northwest coast in the area extending between Alamain, Mersa Matruh and el-Salum in order to utilise solar and wind energy resources for irrigating the western desert.

The Minister, Mr. Maher Abaza, has decided to form a committee comprising representatives of universities, the Nuclear Power Authority, the National Research Centre and the Academy for Scientific Research and Technology

to study chances for implementing these projects in collaboration with the United States.

Following a field visit to the chosen area, Egyptian and US experts confirmed that the total solar radiations focused on each square metre in the area are equivalent to 1,800 kilowatt hour.

Experts stated that Roman wells which were used long ago are still in the area and could be well used in reclaiming the area. — GSS

STATION

The setting up of a water desalination station in Nweibaa is currently under way at a cost reaching LE 5 million. The station which will have a productive capacity of 30,000 cubic metres per day will supply the harbour and ships with potable water. The Governor of South Sinai, Mr. Magdi Soliman, said the new station is expected to be in operation before the end of the present year and will offer a radical solution for the water problem in the city. The current water desalination station produces 300 metres of water which do not suffice the city's needs.