

10/08/85

## 1.7 m feddans to get tile drainage

THE drainage plan that aims at implementing tile drainage projects in a total area of 5.2 million feddans in both Upper and Lower Egypt, is the biggest of its type throughout the world, said Minister of Irrigation, Mr. Esam Radi.

Till the end of July, 1985, more than 2.7 million feddans were supplied with tile drainage canals, the minister said. Four thousands feddans will be provided with tile drainage during the remaining two years of the present five year development plan. The rest of the project will be implemented during the coming five year development plan starting by 1987/88, Mr. Radi stated.

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Develop-

ment (IBRD) will finance the fifth stage of the project to be implemented on an area of 1.7 million feddans. Through this project, the productivity of the feddan will be increased by 30 per cent. Mr. Radi pointed out that the best technologies for maintaining the tile drainage canals will be followed to guarantee that the network will be operational with its highest efficiency. Experts of the Ministry also developed designs of the tile drainage network in the rice cultivation areas to save 30 per cent of water.

The tile drainage projects are implemented in the mechanical way. Plastic pipes instead of cement ones are used in the implementa-

tion of these networks. He pointed out that many plants for plastic pipes production have been implemented in many governorates including Assiut, Beni Suef, Aga, Tanta and Damanhur usage of this kind of pipes is considered one of the most modern methods applied in the field of tile drainage.

Concerning general drainage projects, the country's plan aims at the establishment and deepening of the general drainage networks on an area of 6.314 million feddans in both Upper and Lower Egypt. Drainage canals on an area of 5.02 million feddans were deepened and expanded till July of the present year, said Mr. Radi. —MSS

DAKAHLIA

THE foundation stone of an automatic water purification station was laid recently in el-Manzala district in Dekahlia governorate. The new station will be established on an area of 12 feddans with a capacity of 800 litres per litre-second. This station will be completed in three years at a cost of LE 12 million, said the Governor of Dakahlia, Mr. Saad el-Sherbini. Moreover, the sanitary sewerage network at el-Manzala has been expanded to reach the new districts, besides establishing two sewerage stations at el-Aziza and Mit-Salail villages.

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## Locally-made desalination units soon

RESEARCHERS at the faculties of Science and Engineering, Cairo University, are currently implementing a project that aims at producing water desalination units for the first time in Egypt, in collaboration with scientists of the National Research Centre and the Ministry of Energy.

The locally-made units will be used in remote villages and rural areas and their capacity will range between 50 and 500 cubic metres daily, according to Dr. Essam Eddin Khalil, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Cairo University. He said that Egypt has imported water desalination units during the last ten years and

that manufacturing such units locally will help save a lot of foreign currency.

Dr. Khalil also said that an agreement is expected to be signed with the Industrialisation Authority to start the production of water desalination units on a large scale. A sum of LE. 750,000 will be set aside to finance the first stage of the project, he added.

The project is not only confined to the production of water desalination units, but also to finding new techniques for desalination, said Dr. Khalil, who pointed out that selecting a certain technique depends on the degree of water salinity.

In order to ensure the suc-

cess of the project, a survey on potable water resources in the coastal areas should be conducted, said Dr. Khalil, adding that this will help establish water desalination units in areas that actually need additional supplies of potable water.

The project will be carried out in three stages; the first is to establish a data bank on the various water desalination techniques applied in other countries, the second is to select the best design for units that can be produced locally and the third is to make a study on the potential of the local industrial sector which will manufacture the units, Dr. Khalil pointed out. GSS

21/08/85

SINAI

THE Ministry of Irrigation has started setting up the first experimental farm in Sinai with the aim of testing subterranean water for reclamation purposes. The farm will be set up on an area of 50 feddans at el-Kharik valley. The most suitable methods of irrigation, agricultural crops and plants for this area will be subjected to experiment, according to the availability of subterranean water. Drip and osmosis irrigation will be used on the farm by the use of pottery pipes which will carry water from the wells.

04/09/85

## Maadi, Helwan water supplies to double

THE General Authority for Greater Cairo Water Utility decided to develop the two potable water stations in Maadi and North Helwan so as to increase their production by 50 per cent. The development process will start by October and is due to continue till September of the coming year, said Chairman of the authority, Mr. Kamal

Hegab.

The main aim of the project, he said, is to provide areas lying between Maadi and north Helwan with their potable water requirements and remedy water shortages. He added that Rod el-Farag potable water station will also supply these regions with water. GSS