

CONSIDERING PRIESTHOOD
OR RELIGIOUS LIFE?

"COME AND SEE"



A weekend live-in experience for college age Catholic men is being offered Nov. 6-8 in Omaha, at the Oblate House of Studies. There will be a time for prayer, reflection, questions and shared community life.

For information contact:

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Panel discusses irrigation use

By Carol Harrah

Expanding irrigation projects and deciding on project cost benefits in Nebraska were the topics of an irrigation conference held in the East Union Thursday afternoon.

A four-member panel of people involved in various agricultural professions that deal with irrigation discussed proper water use and the cost of irrigation to an audience of 50.

Vincent Dreeszan, director of the Conservation and Survey Division in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said, "I have a reverence for water that people might find excessive. I consider myself an environmentalist with a geological appreciation for time and change in relation to land."

Dreeszan said the future use of water within the state depends on how much farm land is irrigated.

"There are presently seven million acres of irrigated farm land in Nebraska, and some studies project that there will be nine to 12 million acres being irrigated by the year 2000," Dreeszan said.

Jack Hart, executive coordinator of natural resources and special assistant to Gov. Charles Thone, talked about Nebraska's dependence on irrigation.

"Nebraska depends more on irrigation for its economy than any other state," Hart said. "At the present time, we have the highest percentage of farmland under irrigation in the country, and are the third-ranked state in irrigated acres. We are behind Texas and California, who have more land area than we do."

Hart said Nebraska has enough soil to double the number of irrigated acres within the next 20 to 30 years.

Lloyd Fischer, UNL professor of agricultural economics, said water is abused because it is cheap.

Water is free

"We have gone after public policy and made water cheap and abundant. Now we are shocked to find out that people abuse water by using it too much," he said. "In fact, water is free. You pay for the cost of water treatment and its deliverance, but you don't pay for the water itself."

Fischer discussed current projects in promoting irrigation and the costs and benefits of irrigation.

"In increasing the amount of irrigation in Nebraska, we don't like to talk about costs. We prefer to talk about the benefits from it," he said. "But we need to talk about the costs of water. We will continue to develop irrigation as long as the irrigator himself doesn't have to pay for it."

"At the moment, the irrigator doesn't pay for it, and if he did, then the cost of food would go up."

Robert Warrick, conservation chairman of the Sierra Club, said that he disagrees with promoting an increase in irrigation.

"We are fighting past projects here. I think the good projects in the state have been built. You are going to run into problems environmentally, with trying to irrigate for future progressive projects."

Hart said irrigation is necessary for the Nebraska economy.

Competition for water

"We will be in competition for water in Nebraska with other states," he said. "We will have to manage water better by stopping, holding and storing water wherever and whenever we can. There's no way to know how much in the way of benefits we'll get from it 40 years from now. You put the money in it because you have to just like medical research and military defense."

Fischer said, "We need to look at the costs of irrigation. We need to see how much an irrigator can pay for it, and how many bushels per acre he is receiving from it," he said.

He said the average number of bushels per acre of corn under irrigation is 135, but that means that some farmers aren't getting that sort of yield.

"That average number means that there are Nebraska farmers who aren't getting 135 bushels per acre," he said. "When a farmer gets about 50 bushels per acre — or lower — he is going to be washed out in two years."

Dreeszan said there are two forms of reservoirs from which people get water.

"There are surface water reservoirs and ground water reservoirs," he said. "Surface water reservoirs are in trouble because they are an expensive way of storing water"

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Nobel recipient gets NU award

By Leslie Boellstorff

Nobel prizewinner Herbert C. Brown was at UNL Thursday to accept an NU Foundation award for organic chemistry.

Because of his research in boron chemistry and steric effects, Brown received the Cliff S. Hamilton Award, named after the former chairman of the UNL Chemistry Department and given to internationally recognized leaders in organic chemical research.

His discoveries will be useful in pharmaceuticals, in combating ecological problems and in controlling the insect population without using insecticides, he said.

Brown summarized 45 years of work in his acceptance speech, as "Adventures in Research".

After earning his bachelor's degree in 1936, he said, he began graduate work at the University of Chicago.

His doctoral thesis was on the diborene molecule, he said. He first became aware of the subject because of a book his fiancée gave him. He said she gave it to him for graduation because it was the least costly book on chemistry she could find.

After he received his doctorate degree, he couldn't

find industrial work, so he began an academic career as a post-doctorate fellow. Although he was an inorganic chemist, Brown was going to research the pituitary gland. But while he was waiting for the donation of some specimens, he became involved in other areas of research, which led to some of the more important discoveries of his career, he said.

"It doesn't pay to be too rigid in pursuing one's objectives," Brown said.

During World War II, Brown began researching volatile and stable compounds of uranium, he said. But by the time they had developed practical uses for their product, the war was over.

In 1943, Brown began work with the research program at Wayne State University, reaching associate professor status. In 1947, he joined Purdue University. He is currently Wetherill Research Professor Emeritus at Purdue.

Brown said his research has opened up a new "continent" of chemistry to be explored.

He said he considered organic chemistry to be a mature science in 1936, but he proved himself wrong. There are many valuable new techniques yet to be discovered, he said.

Applications for
Daily Nebraskan
Editor in Chief

are now being accepted.

Deadline for applications
Noon, Friday, Nov. 6

Applicants should be familiar with the Guidelines for the Student Press adopted by the NU Board of Regents (copies available upon request).

Submit application and resume to the Daily Nebraskan Business office, 34 Nebraska Union.

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