

SUMMARY OF THE 1975 IRRIGATION SEASON
IN WASATCH AND SUMMIT COUNTIES

The year 1975 was one of the best years for water on the Provo River. Snow pack for the winter of 1974-75 was better than average and, because the Spring was cool and late, runoff due to snowmelt was about three weeks later than usual. Also the ground water table was higher in the Heber Valley throughout the summer of 1975.

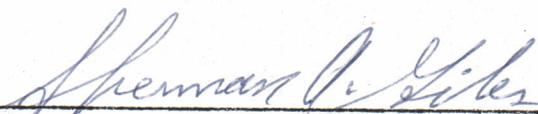
Past records and statements from those who preceded me in office indicated 2,000 cubic feet per second would be a maximum natural flow for the Provo River through Heber Valley. Because of the weather conditions the natural flow of the Provo went above 2,000 second-feet for eight days in June and on June 15 the natural flow peaked at 2,823 second-feet. This only brings out the fact that it is difficult to predict what the river will do from year to year. No two seasons are ever the same on the Provo River.

High water lasted on the river until the 23rd of July and we were able to deliver 100% of the First Class Rights the entire irrigation season.

The reservoirs at the head of the river all filled with water to spare. We had to open the gates on these reservoirs the latter part of May to let the runoff water through and some of the gates were never closed until the end of the season, or September 15.

There were about the same number of exchanges from Deer Creek Reservoir for the Head of the River storage as usual. Most of this exchange water was used in the Woodland-Francis area in Summit County.

I enjoyed the cooperation of Commissioner Roberts, the State Engineer's Office, the water users and all responsible parties on the Provo River during 1975. The Provo River Water Users Association was very helpful with their men and equipment in placing dams and helping to divert the water in the proper laterals the latter part of the summer.


Sherman A. Giles
Deputy Commissioner

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