



1st - 15th September

1. General

A meeting of the Health and Education Sub-Committee was held on 2nd September, at which, owing to the absence of the majority of members, business was restricted to a number of long outstanding scholarship applications. Most of the applications were rejected as not being sufficiently outstanding to merit special consideration during a time of financial stringency, but the Committee agreed in principle to one of its members, Sayyid Said Nassir Saif of Umm al Qaiwain, being sent on an English Language Course to the U.K., together with Sayyid Rashid Sultan al-Makhawi of Sharjah, and it was also agreed that Sayyid Ahmed Abdelrahman al-Jarman of Ajman should be granted an award, if he failed to obtain another scholarship for which he had applied, and subject to his securing entry into a University in the United Arab Republic.

Two meetings of the Mileiha Board was called but could not be held due to the absence of members.

The substantive appointment of Dr. W.F.J.M. Thom who is now acting as Health Adviser to the Council was incorrectly described in the last issue; it is that of Public Health Medical Officer to the Dubai Municipality.

2. Agricultural School

The Agricultural School at Digdaga has opened with 20 new students who have been divided into two classes, according to whether they have completed 6 or 8 years schooling. The new students are from the East Coast, Masafi, Ajman and Dubai. There are so far 15 more applicants for entry, mostly from the rural areas of Ras al Khaimah.

There are four students from the second year, and three out of the eight graduates from last year are now employed by the Council, two in Veterinary work and one at Mileiha. One of the earlier students of the School, Sayyid Khilfan Mattar, who has been employed at Mileiha for the past year has been accepted on a one month F.A.O./U.N.D.P. Course on Agricultural Project Formulation and Evaluation shortly to be held in Damascus.

/ 3. Rural Water Development

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During August and the first part of September well drilling has been carried out by all four rigs operated by the Council, Rig No. 1 in Sharjah & Umm al Qaiwain territory, No. 2 in Ras al Khaimah and then Ajman, No. 3 in Fujairah, and No. 4 in Ras al Khaimah. Total depths drilled in August were:-

No. 1	197 metres
No. 2	121 metres
No. 3	69 metres
No. 4	85½ metres

Rig No. 1 completed a garden development borehole in Dhaid and started another before being moved to Tawi Saif (Umm al Qaiwain) to complete a well there; it then moved back to Sharjah territory and drilled a hole near the Sharjah - Dhaid road some 28 Km from Sharjah.

Rig No. 2 drilled a number of holes close to Sha'am for a village water supply and a complete hydraulic survey is being prepared for this purpose. The rig was then moved to Ajman territory to commence the investigations necessary to make important decisions about the future independent water scheme for Ajman.

Rig No. 3 was engaged in Fujairah drilling six holes for electrical earthing before moving on to a garden belonging to the Ruler.

Rig No. 4 has been employed at Ghail drilling wells for a village water supply. In one hole three old coins were found, one of which has been sent away for identification.

Full pumping tests have been carried out at Sha'am, Shamel, Tawi Saif and Dhaid. Routine observations of water levels and salinities were carried out on 22 wells in the desert areas and 12 wells in the gravel plain. Small floods were recorded at Siji and Bithna and large ones were reported from Masfut and Howailat.

4. Gravel Plain Road Project

Preliminary surveys have been carried out in the vicinity of Mileiha for the projected road which would eventually lead from the Al 'Ain/Buraimi area northwards along the gravel plain between the mountains and the sands to the North of the Trucial States. The purpose of this ambitious multi-purpose road is described in the attached Note on Roads in Trucial Oman. Professor Peter Rowe, Professor of Soil Mechanics, Manchester University and Mr. Kenneth T. Bass of Rofe, Kennard and Lapworth are now in the Trucial States to advise on the Soil Mechanics and Hydrology aspects respectively.

5. Finance

The Government of Abu Dhabi paid a further contribution of BD 250,000 at the beginning of the month. This brings the total contribution from Abu Dhabi during the year to BD 2 million out of the BD 2½ million promised.