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TECHNICAL LIBRARY

THE GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY

FSL - Loveland, etc.
GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY friends rallied to honor two retiring GW employees Friday night with a retirement dinner party at the Vets Club. Lowell Bond (left) had a total of 42 years service with the company; Leonard Johnson, right served 26 years. Mrs. Bond is at the left in the center of the photo and Mrs. Johnson at the right. (Daily Reporter-Herald photo by Merritt Lewis)

Uncommitted Funds

Mike Moore, manager of Great Western United Foundation, says about $30,000 is uncommitted for the coming year. "We generally favor grants to individuals or groups with no access to money," he said, citing past gifts to action-oriented student environmental groups at Metropolitan State College, University of Colorado at Denver and Boulder, and Colorado State University. The foundation also put up $6,000 bond for Globe residents seeking court rulings to end the stink from an area rendering plant. A $2,000 grant is a big one, now, he observed. The bulk of the annual GWUF budget goes to a migrant resettlement program ($120,000).

New GW district manager

B. M. Swarthout, purchasing manager of Great Western Sugar Co. since February of 1970, has been appointed district general manager of for Montana-Wyoming District succeeding Lee Butler.

Swarthout is a Texas native who graduated from the University of Denver and joined GW in 1966. Butler's new assignment has not been announced, but he will remain at the Billings office.
Controversy spices regular Gering City Council meeting

Controversy was the order of the day at the regular Gering City Council meeting Monday night as verbal fireworks erupted over an Indian center bids for paving districts and a proposal to pave streets in northeast Gering.

Mayor W. R. Prohs mixed it up verbally with Mrs. Harold Gies on the Indian issue, with Marty Strange of the New Cranger as Community Development on the paving for northeast Gering and denounced paving bids from two firms as "ridiculous."

Harold Gies, his wife, Ruby, and Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Kissler appeared in support of a petition, presented by Gies opposing establishment of an Indian center in the old Howard Grocery at 955 N. Street.

Gies said the petition contained 197 names of persons in the area who did not want the center on the grounds that social gathering places are not appropriate in a residential area, that the building is too small, that there would be traffic problems and that they feared the center would encroach on private property.

The petition asked the council to set a hearing on whether the center was proper use under the zoning of the area.

Mrs. Gies said she called Mayor Prohs last week to ask if the Lakota Association could move into the building before the issue was settled. She complained that the mayor was verbally abusive and did not answer her question until he had spoken several minutes after answer.

Prohs defended his end of the telephone conversation by telling Mrs. Gies that she had not listen well and that he would never give a yes or no answer without explaining the reasons. He said he did give an answer after attempting such an explanation.

The mayor then said there was another side to the issue and the petitioners had started their drive without knowing what was going on.

Kissler told the council he thought such a center should be downtown.

Myron Taylor of Gering, program chairman for the Lakota Association, took the floor in defense of the center. He said the association is getting the center on its own and has turned down government assistance. They plan to remodel the building and there will be adequate supervision of activities, he said, adding that there would be no rowdism or drinking. He said he felt there would be ample parking and could see no probability of trespassing.

Taylor said many people go to church to pray for the heavens but heaven help them if one should sit down in a church pew beside them.

The petitioners were referred to the city attorney for examination. At the Sept. 13 meeting the attorney will make his findings. There will be a police report on observation of activities at the center.

Bids were received on three paving districts around the new 100F apartment building. The engineer's estimate was $49,800 for the three districts and both sets of bids were over that figure.

Prohs said an attempt to clarify total of $44,316 and the bid of Missouri Valley Construction Co. was $61,500.

"These bids are ridiculous," Prohs said. "There is something wrong when bids are this far apart."

He then asked for a motion to return bids. See COUNCIL Page 2

GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY RESEARCH LIBRARY
Beetmen Waiting for Harvest; Corn Price Future Is Dim

Major emphasis in beet production as farmers know has been to keep the crop wet. Ample water and effort have accomplished this job with good results in the Bayard factory district of the Great Western Sugar Company.

GW personnel have been passing time pending start of harvest. Efforts in recent weeks have been to get receiving stations in shape to handle beets.

Those close to the crop say it looks great.

The 1971 corn crop is looking better all the time. Even poor fields have progressed in recent weeks.

What has not been so favorable has been the trend of the market. After enjoying a corn market which had moved to $2.50 cwt. locally, farmers have hardly been overjoyed about price prospects which have been shrinking in the last month.

The real blow came last week with the announcement by the government that the 1971 corn crop is measuring up to a 5.4 billion year. This is a whopping 30 per cent hike from a year ago when blight took a heavy toll of the production.

As things look now, those in the business look for a starting market of $1.75 to $1.85.

Beetgrowers Consider More Representation For This Area

A special meeting of the Mountain States Beet Growers Marketing Association will be held Monday evening, August 30 to consider the enlargement of delegate numbers.

Gene Smith, the only delegate from Nebco Association, states that this issue has direct relation to this area. Nebco Association covers the Chase and Perkins county area in Nebraska and Phillips county in Colorado. Since this is a comparatively new area only one delegate has been allocated to the larger Mountain States organization.

Mr. Smith urges Beet Growers of Chase County to attend the meeting in Greeley, Colo., Monday evening, if at all possible. It will be held in the Community Room of the United Bank of Greeley Building in that city.

The board of directors of Mountain States are recommending the change from 16 delegates to 20 so that present membership and acreage could be well represented without sacrificing any of the experience and knowledge possessed by directors from older producing areas.

Harlan Seaworth stated that the Mountain States Association has made the following policy statement which would prevail if the change is approved:

"If the change in the number of directors is approved by the membership, the Mountain States Board of Directors will appoint additional director as large in the eastern area if those larger districts so request.

"The directors feel there could be an additional state director in the Nebco local and one in the Brush local. They feel there is currently enough acreage in the Tri-County local (Kemp) to justify two new directors at large there.

"The Mountain States directors also encourage any district to consolidate with an adjacent local if it would have an economic and administrative advantage."
Letters to the editor

Give Indians their hall

There are times when the perversity and pertinacity of uninformed people gives me a "slow burn."

The objection of a group of persons in Gering to giving the Lakota people a chance to have a mission, arts and crafts center and a place for memorial services to be held in the former I Howard Grocery Store located at 805 N Street in Gering, which has been discussed in Gering the past week or more, is one of those times when my dander rises.

To show how unreasonable it is to deny the Lakota people this mission and social center in a residential district, there is located across the street north from it the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Hall which is used as a fraternal meeting place and social center. North of this location two blocks is the former Great Western Sugar Company dormitory which later became the nurses home and the street is now being rezoned and widened so that an apartment house may be located there.

Gering people should be happy to have the empty Howard Grocery building become a Lakota mission and social center, along with the Odd Fellows Hall, and to have an old empty building turned into a modern apartment house. This is progress. We live in this neighborhood.

The writer is not speaking without some knowledge of what the Lakota mission is to become. Investigation has been made and information received that the building will be used for a mission, memorial services, and on Monday nights, a social center with bingo being played and members contributing small prizes. This is perfectly legal. The five cents from the bingo cards will be saved to buy Christmas gifts for the Lakota children. On other days, arts and crafts meetings will be held there. Our senior citizens have been holding such meetings for some time and no one objected. The Lakota people will make bead work of intricate nature, moccasins, whistles, small drums, dolls and other items that can be sold.

Being in the Profile Doll Pattern business myself, I am often contacted by women doll collectors wanting authentic Indian dolls. There is a great movement all over the United States to collect dolls of all kinds. Since I have sold Profile Doll Patterns in all 50 states, in provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and even Puerto Rico in the last 15 months, I know that genuine Indian dolls as well as other products made by the Lakota group would bring increasing business to Gering.

The mission house would also serve as a clothing center for the Lakota people and their children. At the present time they have 26 folding chairs and need more. They also need a refrigerator and a cooking range. No doubt there are many kind-hearted people who would be glad to contribute to this establishment.

Is there anything about such a plan to disturb the people who are circulating petitions against this mission and social center? I am glad no one has asked me to sign a petition. I would be ashamed to have my name appear on a petition that is definitely race discrimination. Are we going back to the Nazi ways?

If those people who object to this mission and social center for the Lakota people would only reflect that less than 100 years ago the white men came in to this area, killed the buffalo which furnished food, clothing, teepees and tools for the Indian people's survival and then took their land away from them with treaties which were never kept. The Indian people were given the poorer land on reservations and when gold was discovered in the Black Hills, which had been given to the Indians, they were crowded out, and forced to live on poor, infertile soil. If you don't believe me just drive up through southern South Dakota through the reservation country and parts of Arizona and Utah and many other states.

When the chiefs of the various tribes put their marks on what they were told were "peace treaties" thousands of years of a remarkably unique and free way of life vanished for them. Their customs, everything they believed in was suddenly, shatteringly destroyed. What they got in exchange was humiliation, poverty, hopelessness and generations of despair.

In spite of their sad and tragic history, the Indians have made remarkable advances. The very fact that they were the oldest race of people on earth shows they have tremendous ability to adapt to new and changing conditions.

The Lakota people should not be condemned because a few Indian names appear in the police records. Just remember there are German, Irish, Swedish, English, Scotch and many other nationalities whose names also appear there day after day.

I have sat in St. Timothy's Episcopal Church with some of the Lakota people. Let us try in some small measure to undo some of the great wrong done to the Lakota people and help them establish a religious mission and social center at 805 N Street and may God forgive those who seek to defeat their humane efforts to have a place of their own to meet.

Estelle Laughlin
Gering
Oil drillers apply for federal water pollution permits

In most cases the water is pumped back into dry wells, but sometimes it is so plentiful that it must be discharged into rivers or streams. Willums said a study of its effects is needed.

The greatest danger, of course, is from oil and grease going into the stream along with other water. However, Willums and Norman J. Bessey, executive secretary of the gas commission, credit oil drillers with clearing out their equipment in an effort to prevent oil spills.

Applications for four oil companies for six Montana drilling operations indicated that all have pollution abatement equipment in use to keep oil, grease and other impurities from discharges.

Bessey also said he doesn't expect many discharges from the drillers. They are directed to put the water back into the ground whenever possible, and some even drill special wells for that purpose, he said.

Three applications on file with Willums from Shell Oil and Atlantic Richfield account for about a fourth of the state's approximately 2,200 operating oil wells.

APPLICATIONS on file from industry include two smelters, a sugar beet plant and

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BILLINGS GAZETTE
Billings, Montana
(D-54, 518 S-55, 302)
AUG 31 1971

STATE OFFICIALS balked at the federal program when it was first announced, complaining that guidelines were inadequate and that duplication of state and federal efforts would result. The state Board of Health even passed a resolution in late spring calling for a delay in the permit program.

With additional guidelines issued and a three-month extension granted, the state has been placated somewhat, but still is wary of duplication.

Willums said he hopes the EPA will have a representative here when the bulk of the applications arrive so that state and federal agencies can work together on the reviews.

PERMIT APPLICATIONS from oil companies on file include:

- Partners Union Central Exchange, Inc. for its Laurel oil refinery. The refinery would use about 5.9 million gallons of water a day for cooling, boilers, and the refining process itself and would discharge 484,000 gallons a day into the Yellowstone River.

- Continental Oil Co. for its Billings refinery. The refinery has an intake of about 1.3 million gallons of water a day for cooling and boilers and discharges about 425,000 gallons a day into the Yellowstone River.

- Amoco Production Co. for its Elk Basin oil field. A discharge of about 1.2 million gallons of water a day from oil drilling would go into Silvertip Gulch and then into the Clark's Fork River in Carbon County.

- Texaco Inc. for its Roundup oil production operation. Water amounting to 9,300 gallons a day at the Quennell battery and 3,400 gallons a day from the Lommon battery is discharged into the North Willow Creek drainage in Musselshell County.

- Shell Oil Co. for its Cabin Creek unit near Glendive. Water amounting to about 210,000 gallons a day from oil drilling is discharged into a tributary of Cabin Creek in Falls County.

- Shell Oil Co. for its Baker oil production unit, which discharges about 8,000 gallons of water a day into Big Gumbo Creek in Fallon county.

- Atlantic Richfield Co. for its Northwest Elk Basin oil field. Water discharge was about 50,000 gallons a day into Silvertip Gulch and thence into the Clark's Fork River in Carbon County.

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PERMIT APPLICATIONS from industry also include:

- Great Western Sugar Co. for its Billings beet plant. A fall and winter seasonal operation, the plant's water intake and discharge amounts to about 15 million gallons a day, and the discharge goes into the Yellowstone.

- Montana Power Co. for its Bird and Garrett electric power generating stations in Billings. The two plants use a total of almost 131 million gallons of water each day for cooling, and then discharge it into the Yellowstone. The two plants have a state permit and meet water quality standards.

- Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for its Lewistown and Clark station electric power plant in Lewistown. The plant uses about 30 million gallons of water a day, mainly for cooling, and discharges it into the Yellowstone. The plant has a state permit and meets standards.

- Montana-Beltrona Utilities Co. for its standby power plant in Glendive which operates only 256 hours in 1976. When it does operate, water is used mainly for cooling and is discharged into the Yellowstone under state permit.
Keep the Beets Wet Is Same Old Story; Late Corn Harvest

Keep the beets wet. This has been a standard suggestion every year. One which local producers have followed with vigor this season since the temperatures, in the 90s, have taxed the capacity of the leaves to keep roots growing.

Weedy fields have been of concern to farmers. At this point, cost of weeding has reached a high plateau. So, the tendency of farmers with this problem has been to by-pass the job.

The practice of cutting tops and windrowing has left puller operators with just weed roots slowing them down. Receiving station equipment eliminates as much of these as possible, so the situation has not gotten out of hand.

The corn this year is still in good shape, but as every farmer knows the crop is late. It is the opinion of many that most fields will need good growing conditions to mid-October to mature late fields.

GW Reports Job Changes For Two Men

SCOTTSTULL (T-HNS) — W. C. McEwen, District General Manager of the Great Western Sugar Company's Nebraska District, has announced an immediate realignment in the chain of command within the district agricultural staff.

Leonard H. Henderson, former Resident Agricultural Manager for the Scottsbluff and Gering factories, has been named District Agricultural Manager for the Nebraska District. Henderson attended grammar and high schools at Lone Tree and Greeley, Colo. and graduated from Colorado A & M College in 1937. He taught vocational agriculture until 1942, when he joined Great Western as an Apprentice Fieldman at Greeley.

Bill Gray, who has been Assistant Agricultural Manager for Great Western's Kemp factory at Goodland, Kan., has been appointed Assistant District Agricultural Manager for the Nebraska District. A graduate of Colorado State University in 1963, Gray was born, raised and schooled in Fort Lupton, Colo. After service in the U.S. Air Force, Gray joined Great Western as an Apprentice Fieldman at Brighton, Colo. in 1957.

County Board To Consider New Ambulance Plan

City Manager R. W. Laing and Mayor Neil Colerick met with the county commissioners at the regular meeting of the board Monday. The possibilities of turning the city ambulance service, presently performed by the City Police, over to a private individual was discussed.

In this plan the City of Alliance and the county would share initial costs of the service. The main reason for the desired change-over, it was reported, is because it takes a policeman away from his regular duties. The commissioners asked that the city compile figures on the cost and present them at a later time.

In other business Great Western Sugar Company gave the county permission to unload gravel from railroad cars at the Berea receiving station.

The commissioners also passed a resolution setting the mill levies for the 1971-72 fiscal year.

County Sheriff Don Underwood reported that funds were available from the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice for daily use type equipment. The cost Underwood explained is on a 25-75 basis with the county paying 25 percent. The commissioners directed Underwood to make application for what was deemed necessary, however it was pointed out that the application will have to be approved by the state agency before the funds are granted.
Animals are won by 30 youths in pig, calf scrambles at fair

MITCHELL — Scotts Bluff County Fair is completed for another year. But at least 30 youths are committed to livestock projects for next year's fair.

In the greased pig contest 20 boys and girls were winners and 10 boys caught calves in the calf scramble Sunday. Each of these winners must show a 4-H project in the classification in which he won.

Calf scramble winners and donors of calves were: Gary Rickard, Shalco; Rodney Schmer, Twin City Livestock; David Reichert, Bill's Implement; Greg Williamson, Great Western Sugar Co.; Steve Rein, Dill Implement; Doug Howard, Production Credit Association; Bryan Anderson, as yet no donor; David Haun, Tim Johnson; Kelly Schmer; Scramble kids, and Alan Corr, Engleman Trucking.

Winning girls and donors in the greased pig contest were Monica Svitak; Rite Mix Milling; Lisa Becker, Sure Crop Chemical; Jane Svitak, Gering Jaycees; Becky Wood, Melvin Grasmick; JoAnn Sessler, Cox Rexall Drug; Becky Nulaw, Harold Hort, auctioneer; Lorrie Duffield, MDF&M Masonry Contractors; Mary Kenyon, Lampert Building Center; Michele Parmenter, Jake and Jerry Wegelin, and JoAnn Kreman, Don Staman.

Winning boys and donors in the greased pig contest were Craig Foss, McCosh Drug; LaWayne Klein, Gering Clothing; Jim Jensen, Gering Jaycees; Doug Bott, Ron Englehaug, State Farm Insurance; Brad Staman, Sears Roebuck and Co.; Mark Kaufman, Emco Stone; Monte Sturgeon, Loseke Construction; Kelly Conrad, Richard Plumbing and Heating; Jeff Martin, Meri Staman, and Kim Gibson, as yet no donor.

Gering Jaycees, according to County Agent Robert Scribben, worked to find donors for the pig contest and helped with the contest Sunday.

Beet Crop Appears Normal

The Loveland district sugar beet crop is "in pretty good shape," according to an agricultural report to be issued by the Great Western Sugar Company.

Lowell Giauque, agricultural manager, said that pre-harvest samples made it possible to say that everything is "normal for this time of year."

The statement appeared conservative as Giauque revealed results of the sampling of nearly 11,000 acres that came up with a projected average yield of 17.5 tons per acre. This is about a ton per acre more than last year.

"If this weather continues until we start harvest, we could have a 16.5 sugar content," Giauque said. The sugar is 1.1 per cent better than at the same time last year.

The agricultural manager said it is noteworthy that the crop is beginning to yellow and show signs of maturing, an important phase in the sugar production.

Giauque said he is not sure when harvest will start, but will set a date soon.

The stand this year is rated 100 per cent as compared to 94 per cent last year, and beet weight is about one-half ounce better. Comparison is 21.3 pounds this year against 20.8 pounds last year, according to sample projections.
Gross Quits As Executive Of GW Cities

By JACK PHINNEY
Denver Post Business Writer

Norman Gross has resigned as senior vice president of Great Western Cities, The Denver Post learned Wednesday.

Gross was the top administrative officer of the community-development firm, a wholly owned subsidiary of Great Western United Corp.

The parent firm acknowledged Gross' resignation and said no successor has been named. Gross couldn't be reached for an explanation.

Two executives previously under Gross are now reporting directly to William M. White, chairman and president of Great Western United, a company spokesman said. They are Bruce Ducker, the subsidiary's vice president of legal affairs, and Peter Leveton, vice president of finance.

Gross was a colleague of Nat K. Mendelsohn, whose California City Companies merged with Great Western United in 1969. Mendelsohn projects that were part of the merger consisted of California City and Colorado City, two new-community developments.

Mendelsohn became president of Great Western Cities, the subsidiary formed from the merger, but a year later he resigned over unspecified "differences" with White.

While Mendelsohn was heading Great Western Cities, his top assistant was Gross, who had been an associate since 1938. Previously Gross was manager of the New York sales office of Columbia Pictures.
GWU shareholder to propose changes

BY MORTON L. MARGOLIN
Rocky Mountain News Business Editor

A substantial minority stockholder of Great Western United Corp. announced Friday he will propose changes in management of the Denver-based conglomerate at the company's annual shareholders' meeting in Colorado City on Sept. 16.

Nat K. Mendelson of Los Angeles, now head of North American Cities and formerly head of Great Western United's community building subsidiary, Great Western Cities, issued the statement highly critical of the management of William M. White, president and chairman of Great Western United.

"I think Bill White is wrecking a fine organization," said Mendelson, "and I will have something to say about it at the meeting."

White said in response:

"Soon after Great Western United acquired Mr. Mendelson's companies, we found that his methods failed to meet our standards. In January 1970 he was relieved of his duties. We wish him no harm, but we give no credence to his advice."

Mendelson merged his community building firm into Great Western United, taking in exchange 400,000 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock, which carries with it one-tenth of a vote per share in the annual meeting. In addition, he said, he indirectly controls another 192,000 shares of the same convertible preferred, which are owned by a foundation and members of his family.

Potential of 59,200 votes

Altogether, that would give him a potential of 59,200 votes at the meeting.

Mendelson noted most of the organization he built to sell California City, Colorado City, and the town of Cochiti Lake in New Mexico—Great Western Cities projects—has now left the Great Western United fold.

"I am concerned," he said, "about the continuity of the dividend on our convertible preferred stock in view of the seriously deteriorating situation."

"I note from recent reports by the company that the prime lender, Prudential, has agreed to the continuation of the dividend through 1972, but I am concerned about what would happen beyond that point."

Mendelson noted the exchange ratio of the convertible preferred he holds would require him to put up three shares of the preferred for two shares of common stock. On that basis, he said, the common stock price would have to be $75 a share before he could get the $30 million figure he claims was the agreed price for which he sold his town development company to Great Western United.

Great Western United stock closed Friday on the New York Stock Exchange at $29 a share, up $1.62% a share on the day.

Refused to be specific

"I am coming to the stockholders meeting and I will propose changes in management of the company," Mendelson said.

He refused to be specific about the kind of changes he will seek, adding:

"I am now having meetings with other stockholders, and we will determine at the meetings what we will propose."

Asked if he had ever discussed the items of dissatisfaction with White, Mendelson said, "I have had some long discussions with Bill White, but while he listens, I have the distinct impression he really doesn't want to hear any suggestions."

Mendelson said he also believes "there has been some misrepresentation of fact in company reports, and I intend to have something to say on that score on the meeting, too."

He declined to be specific as to the facts he claims were misstated, indicating he will go into them chapter and verse, when the stockholders are face to face with management at the Holiday Inn at Colorado City.

Mendelson also said he will support eight of the nine by-law amendments proposed by Gerald Armstrong, a Denver investor, which are set for a vote of stockholders at the meeting.

'We don't have it now'

"I am particularly interested in putting in cumulative voting," Mendelson said, "without it, the minority stockholders have no opportuni ty to win representation on the board of directors. We don't have it now, although it is the value we represent (the $3 convertible preferred and the $1.88 preferred) that gives Bill White the basis on which to operate."

In cumulative voting a shareholder can concentrate all of his voting power, multiplied by the number of directors to be elected, and cast the total for one person—rather than dividing up the vote.

Mendelson said the only Armstrong proposal he hasn't made up his mind on as yet involves stock options.

"I am still studying that one," he added.
Shake-Up At GW Reported

An organizational shake-up at Great Western Cities, subsidiary of Great Western United Corp., surfaced within the past week with all involved maintaining a tight-lipped silence as to reasons.

At least four vice-presidents of GW Cities have, or will, resign, Cervi's Journal learned.

Thomas H. Dudley, vice-president for Organization and Personnel, Charles Rich, vice-president for Title and Registration and Norman Gross, Senior Vice-president have all resigned last week.

According to Great Western United Spokesmen, that's all the resignations received.

"Tell them to wait a couple of days," one of the vice-presidents who resigned said.

At least one other vice-president is expected to resign. Before the great exodus there were seven vice-presidents at Great Western Cities.

All cited "personal reasons" for leaving and refused to discuss any internal dissension within the company. "Why don't you ask Bill?" one of the men said.

William White, president and chairman of the board of Great Western United will continue to run Great Western Cities and no replacements for the four men are contemplated.

More on Page 3.

--- GW VPs ---

From Page 3

When contacted by Cervi's, White said he felt the resignations were an outgrowth of Great Western Cities recent headquarters move from Los Angeles to Denver.

"Some of the individuals were not ready to accept, perhaps, the discipline of rigorous management working for Great Western in Denver meant," White said. "Some may not have liked the Denver life-style."

When told that Dudley had gone to work for Phillips Personnel Service as a Director of Executive Search in Denver, White said, "Fine. In that case, then, it must have been the discipline of rigorous management in working for Great Western."

White would confirm only that three vice-presidents had resigned. As to the fourth, he said, "I don't comment on matters of which I have no knowledge from subjects I don't know."
Notes From A Reporter's Other Cuff

The announcement last week by the board of directors of The First National Bancorporation Inc. that it had agreed to purchase 115,118 shares of the corporation's common stock from Trusts for the benefit of Frederick M. Farrar and members of his family wrote a subtle finish and historical footnote to a hot and heavy war that waged three years ago in 17th Street.

In the summer of 1968, William M. White Jr., chairman of Great Western United Corp., called upon his family banking allies from Colorado Springs and Pueblo, formed the Thatcher Banking Partners and attempted to gain enough control of the First National Bank of Denver to prohibit formation of The First National Bancorporation holding company.

The attempt was also an effort to dislodge the then and now management of the bank, Montgomery Dorsey, Eugene Adams et al. It failed but did result in the seating on the Bancorporation board of White, Farrar, Samuel T. Jones Jr. of Pueblo and John M. King. Of those four, only White still remains on the board.

King resigned from the board of directors of Bancorporation Sept. 4, 1970; Jones on April 28, 1971; and Farrar, April 30, 1971. The resignations of Jones and Farrar were a result of their active participation in other banking interests.

Thus with the acquisition by the Bancorporation of the stock controlled by Farrar, any potential threat by the White dominated group to the First's traditional management has been put quietly to rest. Time—even a short three years of it—once again takes its inexorable toll on the fortunes of men.
Bancorp to Make Farrar Stock Deal


The stock is to be acquired from trusts for the benefit of Frederick M. Farrar and members of his immediate family. Farrar is a Colorado Springs banker and a former member of the board of First National Bancorp.

The price per share will be $34.25, representing the low asked price on the common stock in the over the counter market on Aug. 31. The transaction is expected to be completed after Sept. 7, the record date of the corporation's previously announced dividend. Accordingly, the shares will be acquired on an ex-dividend basis.

Bancorp acquired funds for the purchase by borrowing for three years from a non-affiliated bank.

Montgomery Dorsev, chairman, and Bruce D. Alexander, president, said "Bancorp. welcomes the opportunity to purchase these shares for the treasury. Their acquisition, even after giving effect to the interest requires of the loan, will tend to increase the corporation's earnings per share."

They noted that Bancorp. contemplates issuance of up to 232,500 shares of common stock in connection with proposed acquisition of the outstanding stock of the First National Bank of Greeley, and up to 80,000 shares of common stock in exchange for the outstanding shares of Security State Bank of Sterling.

Last July, in U.S. District Court in Denver, Judge William E. Doyle ruled against the Justice Department and refused to block proposed acquisition by Bancorp. of stock of the First of Greeley. The Justice Department yet may appeal that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Justice Department also has brought suit to block the acquisition by Bancorp. of stock of Security State of Sterling. That case has not yet come to trial.

GW Cities VP Joins Personnel Company

Thomas H. Dudley, a former vice president of Great Western Cities, Inc., has joined Phillips Personnel Service in Denver as director of executive search.

Dudley was vice president of organization and personnel at Great Western Cities. Previously he was personnel director of the parent firm, Great Western United Corp.
Sugar Project Might Aid Heart Diagnosis

COLORADO SPRINGS—A sugar research project may lead to the early diagnosis of heart trouble, the head of the International Sugar Research Foundation (ISRF) said here Wednesday.

Gilles E. Sarault, Bethesda, Md., ISRF president, met with reporters at the Broadmoor Hotel where the foundation board is holding a three-day meeting that was to end Thursday.

Attending the conference are 40 board members from sugar companies in Belgium, Canada, Finland, Great Britain, Ireland, South Africa and the United States.

The foundation was formed in 1943 and now has 35 member companies. The organization has spent $6 million in the past 26 years in research aimed at expanding the beneficial uses of sugar.

Sarault said Prof. J. V. O. Reid of the University of Natal School of Medicine at Durban, South Africa, is using a recently developed technique that measures diet-induced changes in blood vessels that may soon lead to the early diagnosis of heart trouble.

The experiments so far have been conducted only on baboons, Sarault said.

A promising breakthrough in the prevention of tooth decay has been made by one of the ISRF companies, the Colonial Sugar Refining Co. of Australia, the foundation president told newsmen.

According to reports, Sarault said the Australian sugar scientists have produced Anticyc, a sugar derivative, which, he said, has no detectable effect on the taste, texture or appearance of foods to which it is added. Anticyc is described as a white powder that can be incorporated into candy, soft drinks and other sugar products.

changes made by

Great Western
July 9, 1971

Jack Powell, recently appointed district general manager of The Great Western Sugar Company's Northeast Colorado District, has announced several changes affecting the personnel in his district, which will be effective immediately.

Changes include the appointment of an assistant to the district general manager and the creation of a new chain of command within the district agricultural staff.

Appointed assistant to the district general manager was George Lapeoee, former assistant agricultural manager for the firm's Scottsbluff and Gering factories in Nebraska. Lapeoee is a native of Bridgeport, Nebr., and attended the University of Wyoming, Laramie. He received a BS degree in Agriculture in 1968, and has been associated with Great Western since that time.

James F. Gonyou, who has been agricultural manager at the Great Western factory in Lovell, Wyo., will transfer to the Northeast Colorado District as district agricultural manager—a newly-created position. Gonyou grew up in Brighton and Ft. Collins, and received a BS degree from Colorado A&M College. He joined Great Western as an apprentice fieldman in 1948.

J. V. Ostermiller, former agricultural manager for the Ft. Morgan factory area, has been named assistant district agricultural manager for Northeast Colorado. Ostermiller attended the Merino, Colo. schools and graduated from Colorado A&M in 1932. He taught school for ten years before joining Great Western as assistant fieldman at Ft. Morgan in 1942.

LeMar Henry, who was recently transferred to Goodland, Kan., as agricultural manager for Great Western’s Kemp factory area, will now be assistant district agricultural manager for the entire Goodland area. Henry was born in Sun City, Kan., grew up near Paonia, and was graduated from Colorado State University in 1941. He joined Great Western as assistant fieldman at the Longmont Experiment Station in 1946.

Commenting on the changes, Powell said, "The realignment of field management positions has been made to allow easier and more efficient delegation of responsibility within the Company. We have made the changes immediately so that moves may be made before the start of the harvest season,"
Sugar Beet Samplings Raise Farmers' Hopes

By JIM McNABNEY
Tribune Staff Writer

Predictions for this year's sugar beet crop get better and better as the harvest season approaches.

Great Western Sugar Co. employees recently completed their second sampling of this year's crop, and the sampling reinforced earlier predictions which compared the crop to a near record one in 1963.

In that year yields reached better than 19 tons-per-acre.

'Looks Beautiful'

Bob Sanborn, agricultural manager at the Greeley factory, said Thursday, the crop "looks beautiful."

"It may be the best crop the Greeley factory has ever had," he added enthusiastically.

This is a "real outstanding" crop, he added. "Farmers are feeling pretty good, because they know there are some great beets out there."

Although President Nixon's recent wage-price freeze may cut slightly into the sugar beet payment, Sanborn said the company was expecting the "finest payment we've had in a long time."

Sanborn wouldn't say, however, whether the payment would reach the $18.50-per-ton figure predicted earlier this year by several Great Western executives.

He would only say, "I don't know about that."

Sugar Content

The sugar percentage during the recent sampling was about 12.9 per cent, and Sanborn predicted the percentage could increase another 2½-3 per cent before the harvest begins.

The expected date for beginning the harvest is Oct. 6, and Sanborn said dumps may open by Oct. 4.

Precise estimates on the crop in the Eaton factory district were not available. During the first sampling several weeks ago however, Don Redman, agricultural manager, said the crop was lagging about 10 days behind the crop in other districts.

The crop samplings are taken to determine the present crop condition and the results are compared with those taken at the same time in earlier years. Another sampling is slated prior to the harvest.
Armstrong has further plans for GW meeting

Gerald Armstrong, Denver champion of shareholder rights who has nine proposals on the agenda for changing the by-laws of Great Western United Corp., said Saturday he has formally notified the company he will raise five other issues from the floor of the stockholders meeting in Colorado City on Thursday.

Armstrong said he will seek adoption of a requirement for monthly, rather than quarterly, directors meetings; a committee of shareholders to review the corporation’s personnel policies; a shareholder’s task force to review corporate and Great Western Foundation activities; a requirement that a professional public relations counselor be made a member of the board; and a requirement that the company hold its future annual meetings in major cities.

He also plans to nominate an alternate slate of directors.

Armstrong apparently had backing in his fifth proposal from Mrs. Wilma Soss, president of the Federation of Women Shareholders.

In a letter to the Rocky Mountain News concerning the meeting, she protested the fact that it was being held in Colorado City, which she claimed was not even on her maps, and was without air transport.

Nearly Inch of Rain Falls In Area This Past Week

Nearly an inch of rain fell here in the past week.

Al Auger, Great Western Sugar Co. agriculturist, reported .71 of an inch of precipitation in the rains last week end, and .18 Tuesday night and there has been a light sprinkle since.

Sugar beets are looking exceptionally fine this year, Auger said, with the samplings just taken showing the highest sugar content and sugar beet weight in the last five years at this time of year.

DAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1971

Prospects Good For Best Beet Crop In Many Years

The results of our beet sampling taken Sept. 1 indicate that the sugar beet crop for the Brighton area should be one of the best in many years, according to John Stewart, Agricultural Manager for Great Western’s Brighton District.

These beet samples are taken at the same time each year for the purpose of determining how the current beet crop might be and comparing the results with those taken at the same time in previous years. The most recent sampling shows that the average weight of beets, the per cent sugar, the purity of beet juice and the stand (the number of beets per 100 feet of row) are better this year than we have had for any of the previous five years.

It is presently anticipated that our beet harvest will start about Oct. 5 or 6, he said, with the factory slicing beginning shortly thereafter. The exact date for beginning these activities will be determined and announced within the next few days.

The next sampling of beets in fields will be taken in three weeks and the results will enable more accurate determination of the 1971 beet crop.

Brighton Factory Manager, Jesse E. Stone, Master Mechanic August "Gus" Schneider and their crews are diligently performing work in order to have the Brighton factory ready for operation for a beet slicing campaign that should last into at least the first party of January, 1972.
Farm Cash Receipts
Set Nebraska Record

A record high in Nebraska cash receipts from farm marketings during 1970, were reported this week by the State Federal Division of Agricultural Statistics in Lincoln. Figures released showed that during 1970 cash receipts totaled $2,010 million dollars, up 3 per cent from the previous high in 1969.

The $2,010 million dollars received in government payments was also the largest on record and compares with $2,011 million dollars received in 1969. The report showed. The combined cash receipts amounted to $1,455 million dollars, accounting for 72 per cent of the total 1970 cash receipts. Meat animals represented 47 per cent of the total livestock income for 1970 with dairy products, poultry and eggs making up the balance.

The cash receipts from hogs of $271 million was lower than in 1969, and the combined total of $6.6 million for the sale of sheep and $8.8 million from the sale of wool, also fell below the 1969 figures.

Corn, wheat, and oats brought higher returns than in 1969, but sorghum grain and soybean sales were lower. Cash receipts for corn amounted to $201 million compared with $259 million in 1969. Wheat returns were up $10 million over the $82 million reported in 1969; but sorghum grain sales were valued at $67 million compared with $78 million the previous year. Cash receipts for soybeans amounted to $49 million against $80 million in 1969.

The report also showed returns from butterfat down and sugar beets higher, with milkfat bringing $1.7 billion in 1970 as against $5.8 billion in 1969. A gain in money received from milk amounting to nearly $90 million compared with $92 million the previous year helped to offset the decline in milkfat sales. Hay sales totaled $20.2 million, down from the $23.2 million figure of 1969.

Sugar beets were valued at $20.5 million in 1970. In 1969 the value was $19.4 million. Dry beans totaled $10.2 million compared with $9.3 million in 1969. Cash receipts from potatoes were 20 per cent below the previous year, amounting to $1.9 million.

As the report shows, cattle and calves continue to rank as the leading source of cash receipts from farm marketings and accounted for 52.7 per cent of the total. Corn was second with 14.5%; hogs next with 13.5%; followed by wheat at 4.5%; milk, 3.4%; sorghum grain 3.3% and soybeans, 2.4%.

State Beet Tonnage Estimate Is Set at 17 Tons To Acre

Depending upon whom a reporter talks, the 1971 sugar beet crop is "relatively weed-free" or slightly "weedier" than a year ago.

At Mitchell, Manager Rudolph reported to be "impressed" with the job growers in his area have been doing. He was pleased, too, to report 99 inch of moisture at Mitchell and Lyman, 8 of an inch at Wheatland.

At Scottsbluff, spokesman thought this year's crop in the Gering and Scottsbluff area may be weedier than a year ago. This does not apply to all of the crop, but weedy fields are easy to spot these days.

The tonnage estimate for the Nebraska district, following samples earlier in the month, has been moved up to around 17 tons to the acre. Scottsbluff and Gering may end up with an average around 18.5.

Henderson Moves To Top Ag Post In Nebraska District

About the only sure thing that's constant on the agenda of the Great Western Sugar Company is that re-shuffling of duties continues. This week, Leonard Henderson, who has been the chief at Scottsbluff and Gering takes on full agricultural duties for the Nebraska district.

Although Henderson will remain stationed at Scottsbluff, his main effort will be at the district level. In this capacity, he will have Bill Gray as his assistant. Gray has been assistant agricultural manager at Goodland, Kansas.

Scottsbluff and Gering district beet growers have a veteran beet man to help them with their production problems. Moving to Scottsbluff will be Gordon Hobert who has acted as assistant at Bayard.

George Lapaseotes, who has been in this area as assistant ag manager for both Scottsbluff and Gering, has moved to Ft. Morgan. He will be the agricultural assistant to the general manager of the Southeast District in Colorado.

We, district general manager at Scottsbluff, announced the changes. All men were taking care of new duties this week.

GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY
RESEARCH LIBRARY

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9, 1971

Beet receiving stations to open September 21

The Great Western Sugar Co., will open all beet receiving stations Tuesday, Sept. 21st this year.

Jerry Tyeete, agriculturist at Hysham reports that Sept. 2nd samples indicate that tonnage for this area can be expected to run 19 tons to the acre, or possibly a little better. Sugar shows that it is setting in good and is above average to date.

With the crop we expect, several growers suggested we start a little earlier to take advantage of good weather, GW said.
What kind of winter will Goodland, Colorado, experience?

By Galen Hubbs
Of The Daily News Staff

What is this winter going to be like? "Cold with quite a bit of snow," says one local weather prognosticator who bases his prediction on probability.

"In the past 10 years we've had six warm open winters, three normal winters and only one cold winter with considerable snow," said Warren Eckert, official in charge of the National Weather Service at Renner Field in Goodland.

As for the remainder of the fall, Eckert believes it will continue to be "warm and dry. The dry cycle started two months ago and certain areas in Northwest Kansas could be called drought areas."

The local weatherman will be the first to tell you there are "no sure rules you can go by in predicting the weather." He makes his long range predictions on "normals and cycles."

One thing that Eckert is definite about is "there have been no changes in the climate in this area. Over the years the temperature from year-to-year has been very close. The mean temperature, that is adding all the highs and lows, is 52.1 degrees. This mean temperature will seldom vary over two years."

Most of the moisture received in Northwest Kansas comes from the Gulf of Mexico. "Normally the best weather producing systems come from the south and move across Arizona and Colorado into Kansas. We also get some moisture from the north but it is of shorter duration and not as heavy in intensity," said the weatherman of 25 years.

During the winter months Eckert noted, "this area can expect rain or snow when a cold front moves in from the west. This is usually preceded by southwinds pulling up moisture in the gulph region and depositing it along the front."

During his years in weather forecasting, Eckert has noted two sure weather signs. "Cold weather and snow go together. Warm weather and little snow go together." These two items of information should be filed in the memory bank of "all local weather prognosticators."

While talking about winter, Eckert stated that the coldest winter occurred in 1959-60. "It was abnormally cold and we had 55.9 inches of snow. The least snowfall recorded here was in the winter of 1945-46 when we had only 11.6 inches. Normal snowfall for the winter here in Sherman County is between 25 and 30 inches. Last year we had 35.6 with much of it coming in the spring." Most of the snow comes during the months of November, March and April he noted.
“Blizzard” Defined

One interesting question asked of Eckert was, “What is a blizzard?” He replied, then looked it up in a Weather Service directory to be absolutely correct. A blizzard is defined as “temperature between 10 and 20 degrees, 35 mile per hour winds and four inches of snow with visibility one-fourth mile or less.” In case you’re interested, a “severe blizzard occurs when the temperature is less than 10 degrees, the wind is over 45 miles per hour and there is more than four inches of snow.”

When trying to determine the moisture content of snow, Eckert stated, “One is safe in using a 10-to-one conversion ratio. If we get 10 inches of snow you can say we received an inch of moisture.” However, he had to add, “There are also wetter and dryer snows.”

Before computers were added to the weather service staff, weathermen labored many hours per day drawing local and regional weather maps. Now computers are fed data gathered from weather stations across the nation and turn out as many as 30 updated weather maps per day. “The computer sends out signals over Western Union and telephone lines which are received and a facsimile machine produces the map,” said the local weatherman. “The computer maps, based on projections and prognostic charts, are improving but they still aren’t very accurate for periods beyond one week.”

Radar, Important Tool

Another important tool of the weatherman has been radar. “With the large unit at Garden City, Limon, Colo., and the one here at Goodland we are able to receive complete coverage of Northwest Kansas and Eastern
WARREN ECKERT, official in charge of the National Weather Service, surveys a weather map. The weatherman of 25 years is prognosticating a warm dry fall with a cold snowy winter for Northwest Kansas. Many of his personal predictions are based on normals and cycles reported and recorded by weathermen over the years. (Staff Photo)

Great Western Sugar
Appoints Four Ag Chiefs

Great Western Sugar Co. has appointed four district agricultural managers. The position is newly created.

The appointees are:

—Ralph W. Hettinger, north central Colorado District.
—James F. Gonyou, northeast Colorado District.
—Leonard H. Henderson, Nebraska District.
—Lee Butler, Montana-Wyoming District.

Hettinger has been agricultural manager at Great Western's factory in Billings, Mont., Gonyou agricultural manager at the factory in Lovell, Wyo., and Henderson agricultural manager at the Scottsbluff and Gering, Neb., factories. Butler has been with the company since 1946.

Great Western also announced the appointment of five assistant district agricultural managers. They are Bob Sanborn (north central Colorado), J. V. Ostermiller (northeast Colorado), Bill Gray (Nebraska), Ronald D. Sleck (Ohio District) and LaMar Henry (Goodland, Kan., area).

In the northeast Colorado District, George Lapaseotes was appointed assistant to General Manager Jack Powell. Previously, Lapaseotes was assistant agricultural manager at the Scottsbluff and Gering factories.
GWU Stockholders Meet to Be Calm, Controlled—White

By JACK PHINNEY
Denver Post Business Writer

The Great Western United Corp. shareholders meeting in Colorado City next Thursday will be a far cry from the shouting match some are expecting.

predicts William M. White, chairman and president.

He says the meeting will be “calm and controlled” despite the promised appearance of Nat K. Mendelsohn, whom White fired as president of Great Western Cities early last year.

Mendelsohn, who now heads a land development firm in Los Angeles and still owns a substantial amount of Great Western United stock, has announced his intention publicly expressing his views on the condition of the company under White’s leadership.

“I’m well aware that Mr. Mendelsohn does not view his former employer with much favor,” White said. “But I find it perplexing that he now feels compelled to attack us.”

If Mendelsohn “opens his mouth” at the shareholders meeting, White said, he’ll “read the list of reasons Mr. Mendelsohn was terminated.”

White believes Mendelsohn will have little to say at the meeting, and added that he himself has nothing to say to Mendelsohn.

It was Mendelsohn’s land developments — including Colorado City — that put Great Western United in the new communism arena two years ago. Mendelsohn’s operation became Great Western Cities, a wholly owned subsidiary of Great Western United, and Mendelsohn acquired perhaps $30 million of GWU stock in the merger.

Mendelsohn’s sales and development team came with the deal, but very few members of this team remain at Great Western Cities today.

“GWU is a tough taskmaster,” White said. “Our people must show not only great ability and productive achievement, but must have the very, very highest ethical standards as well.”

Allied with Mendelsohn at Thursday’s shareholders meeting will be Gerald Armstrong, of Denver, who usually performs individually at such gatherings.

Armstrong, a self-proclaimed advocate of shareholder rights, is the author of nine resolutions that will be put forward at the meeting.

Contained in some of the resolutions are criticisms of GWU’s management, notably White, for not permitting Armstrong to say all he wanted to say at last year’s shareholders meeting. “Undemocratic procedures” and “steamroller politics” are among the phases used.

All White will say about Armstrong is that GWU has been “exceedingly liberal” in its dealings with him and that he may well emerge from this year’s meeting convinced again that he hasn’t said all he wanted to say.

There may be other angry faces in the crowd Thursday. Several representatives of the Mountain States Beet Growers Association say they intend to be at the Colorado City meeting, and one of them — who asked that he not be identified — had this to say:

“Bill White doesn’t give a damn about the beet growers. All he’s interested in is money. That’s how he keeps score.”

Informed that statements such as this are circulating, White replied that he hopes the sugar beet growers “won’t be mad at us next spring when they see all we’ve done to help them.”

Robert Owen, held in high esteem by the growers, was removed as president of Great Western Sugar Co. earlier this year. This is but one of many changes White has made at the sugar company, wholly owned by GWU.

Discussing the removal of Owen, a grower pointed out that both the sugar company and the beet farmer have been hurt by unfavorable growing conditions the past two years. He commented that “as far as Bill White is concerned, bad weather is no excuse for a poor crop. To him, an act of God is a mortal sin.”

A number of observers — in Denver and elsewhere — believe White will find himself in serious trouble at Thursday’s meeting. The latest issue of the Gallagher Presidents Report discusses GWU under the heading “Stormy Session in Store for Bill White.” The report, published in New York, takes note of “turbmoil and dissen...” and reminds the reader that the common stock of GWU is down to about $38 a share from its 1969 high of $79.

The report also notes out, however, that more of Great Western United’s outstanding stock is owned by one William M. White than by anybody else.
Companies to try shareholder proposal

2 firms seek OK of legal counsel choice

By ROBERT A. BURNS
Rocky Mountain News Writer

When stockholders of two major Denver financial concerns attend their annual meetings this fall, they'll be asked to approve a highly unusual resolution offered by management—a resolution that asks shareholder ratification of the company's selection of legal counsel.

The companies offering the resolution are Midwestern Financial Corp., a financial holding company and mortgage banking firm, and First S & L Shares Inc., parent company of two savings and loan association organizations with 19 offices in Colorado and Kansas and a commercial bank in Golden.

First S & L Shares will hold its meeting on Oct. 29 and stockholders of Midwestern Financial will meet Nov. 1. First S & L Shares was formed in early 1969 as a spinoff from Midwestern Financial. Both companies are listed on the American Stock Exchange.

The legal counsel resolution, spelled out in proxy materials soon to be in the hands of shareholders, is a simple statement that the board has selected a legal firm as its general corporate counsel for the coming year. The measure is offered with the implicit suggestion that stockholders endorse management's selection.

Independent auditor

The resolution is similar to the usual management request for approval of its choice of an accounting firm to serve as independent auditor.

Professional investors, boosters of "corporate democracy," and one noted New York attorney who specializes in corporate law see the move as a vindication of the growing trend of shareholder interest and involvement in the operations of major companies—another "breakthrough" in the battle for "shareholder rights."

Company officials and other attorneys, however, tend to view the resolution as a harmless and actually toothless measure which will have little affect on the day-to-day operations of the firm or on the basic relationship between the corporation and its outside counsel.

This is perhaps due to the fact that the resolution contains an "escape clause" which gives the board of directors the right to fire the outside counsel at any time the board believes the lawyers aren't acting in the best interests of the company or the stockholders, a prerogative management already has.

"We don't think this resolution really changes much of anything," said John L. Tracy, chairman of the board of both Midwestern Financial and First S & L Shares.

'Nothing really changed'

"Management has always had the obligation to the stockholders to decide upon a legal counsel which will act in their best interest. This resolution may be an expression of this in words where there was no formal expression of it before, but nothing has really changed."

Tracy conceded, however, that a "substantial, but not necessarily a majority vote" against management's candidate for counsel would be an indicator of shareholder dissatisfaction, which would cue the board to re-evaluate its decision about the counsel.

Inclusion of the resolution in this year's proxy was suggested to the two boards by Denver investor Gerald R. Armstrong. His suggestion has been supported and endorsed by a general corporate practice by Wilma Soss, president of the Federation of Women Shareholders in American Business Inc., of New York and Lewis D. Gilbert, a New York investor who pops up at annual meetings across the nation to act as corporate conscience.

And Stanley L. Kaufman, of the New York firm of Kaufman, Taylor Kimmel & Miller, which has earned a reputation for winning fat settlements in behalf of aggrieved shareholders, is also willing to give testimony in behalf of the resolution.

Calling it a "healthy development," Kaufman said:

"Corporate counsel who may have become rusty concerning the nature and direction of their professional obligations will be reminded of them by the resolution.

"Changes for the better"

"A direct relationship between counsel and stockholders may even lead to changes for the better in corporation law," he said. "Any freeing of counsel from domination by management in the rendition of their professional services may hopefully avoid for lawyers the recent rash of malpractice suits against certain accounting firms for breach of their duties to stockholders and the public."

Because of the nearness of the resolution the Denver, Colorado and American bar associations haven't taken an official policy position on the issue.

But Denver attorney Victor Quinn, who is chairman of the corporate law section of the Colorado Bar Association, says he thinks the resolution "is a bit of window dressing."

"Speaking as a private attorney, I'd say it's going to take time for this relationship to develop, and the relationship will be shaped by the individual aspects of any other companies which adopt it. If corporate counsels do, in fact, wind up having a greater duty to stockholders, the stockholders may feel they have a string on the counsel," Quinn said.

"Although the company's auditors perform an independent check on management business they also occasionally advise management. But the counsel is an advocate for management and its policies and may be in for some difficulty if their appointment is subject to stockholder approval."

Other attorneys agree, and among the difficulties cited should the practice become generalized is the ease with which management can circumvent overzealous counsel who take their "responsibility" to stockholders too seriously.

"The board can simply cut the counsel out of the action when the issues are controversial and management wants latitude in its decision making," another lawyer said. "And if things get too sticky, management could always retain its own house counsel, who wouldn't be subject to stockholder approval."

The two Denver companies planning to offer the resolution have gone a long way in taking the counsel off the spot. Unlike the independent, shareholder-approved outside auditors, the counsel won't issue a report of its activities similar to an auditor's statement included in company annual reports.

"The only statement to be given by counsel will be ones dealing with registrations and the usual legal matters counsel comments upon," say chairman Tracy.

"We examined the pros and cons of the resolution after Armstrong suggested it," Tracy said, "and frankly we couldn't find any 'cons.'

"Maybe we will be sorry we did it two years from now, but at this point in time we just don't see anything harmful in it. If it makes our shareholders feel more comfortable, so much the better. We've felt all along that the board and management are the employees of the stockholders and so we must be sensitive to things the stockholders desire," Tracy said.

The Denver law firm of Holland & Hart will be the corporate counsel proposed by both companies at their meetings later this year, and the comment of an attorney in the firm, David Butler, may be indicative of the attitude toward shareholder approval of counsel that stockholders are likely to get from most members of the legal profession.

"We have no objection to the proposal," Butler said. "But we're not really required to take a position since it isn't a legal question but a management policy decision."
'Oust White' Attempt Will Be Made After GWU Meet

By Sherry Keene

Great Western United Corp. and its Chairman of the Board and President William M. White Jr. are embroiled in battle and the next shots will be fired at the firm's annual meeting scheduled for Sept. 16 in Colorado City.

An attempt to oust White because of the corporation's poor financial performance and recent personnel shifts will be initiated by N.K. Mendelsohn, a dissident stockholder and former GWU executive.

White himself, denying he feels the heat of battle, is pledging a "calm, cool, collected" annual meeting and asserts he is not worried about reports of trouble circulating concerning GWU.

The dissension, previously circulating as "street reports," surfaced this week when White, Mendelsohn, former president of California Cities, and other former employees of GWU talked to Cervi's Journal.

Mendelsohn, who says he "left" Great Western Cities in April, 1970, and who White says he fired at that time, has pledged to start an "oust White" move after the annual meeting.

"The real problem of management at Great Western United Corp. comes to one man," Mendelsohn said, "William White. When you have a little Caesar, an ego-centric person like Bill White, you're in trouble."

White's reaction to Mendelsohn and what is happening at Great Western United is that the trouble is being stirred up by a small group of individuals following some necessary shifting and realignment at the corporation.

"It is clear to me," White said, "that at least two of them—and maybe they have a few friends—are aggravating this situation. It is of no concern to me. We're well positioned to continue to progress and that is what is important."

More on Page 3


Dust White's Temptation

From Page 1

Regard for the personal fight that is scheduled between White and Mendelsohn, it is clear that a number of internal changes are taking place at Great Western and its various subsidiaries.

The net income for GWC has dropped from $210,100 million a year ago on a 1.6 percent rise in sales to $214.4 million. Profit decreases are attributed to accounting procedures for the Great Western subsidiary.

In addition, the current market price of the stock is fluctuating from 31-28, down from the high of 59 in 70. The real question is what has been termed a "disaster year" for White.

Great Western United, however, was forced to ask and perhaps preciose to its largest creditor to declare dividends through 1972. This period of time would appeal to anyone's earning patience but...at that time 31 executive names are being missed from the 1971 annual report to the 1971 report. Others have been steered from one subsidiary to another.

Three separate entities make up what White calls "serious" at various times to be financial straits.

The first is the Great Western Sugar Co., Great Western Cities and Shalcoha's Porzon Pac Inc. The credit that has been most recent discretion is Great Western Cities by condoning GWC in 1969 from its founder, Mendelsohn.

Mendelsohn stayed with the firm for about a year. Recently corporate headquarters were moved to Denver with Mendelsohn's direction to Denver. Several executives have left since that time.

Great Western Cities consists of Colorado City, California City and Shalcoha in New Mexico. Large amounts of acreage are purchased, sub divided, and re-sold to no individual customers.

According to reliable reports, Mendelsohn is said to be preparing ongoing sales practices at Colorado City by the real estate commission and the Shalcoha with contact with Colorado regula...on property there. As a result, a source at Great Western cites, management changes and shifting stock place to "clean up" the operation.

At that point, Mendelsohn left the firm.

The company says, White, "From the day we acquired Great Western Cities, our attorneys and management were in constant communication with the Great Western Real Estate Commission and the Colorado Attorney General's office to settle the agreements to an...in a standard that would be beyond criticism.

"We spent substantial sums of money and enormous amounts of time to get to know our customers and what they would need to be more than satisfied. We're confident now we've reached a store where we can see Great Western Cities with the utmost pride."

"But getting there has been tough."

White said two categories of men at Great Western Cities in the recent term: "Good men, determined not to move to Denver," and "same executives who were with Mendelsohn who did not meet our standards one way or another."

In addition, in terms of the company's earnings, White says, "I have heard a lot concerning previous Cities prac-

When Mr. White means today what he has been quoted as saying, "The company's in a lot of trouble, but 20 good friends and will remain good friends. He and I differed

As to the recently and descripti

Mendelsohn says, "Owen was properly aware of the situation at the time I was there. The current president of Great Western Sugar Company, Mr. White, knows nothing about sugar."

"This is the second year in a row we've had a weather report from Mr. White as saying that "He bakes" the Great Western Sugar performance consistently on the Great Western Sugar."

The third faction in this dispute is the group of individuals who depend on Great Western for their livelihood. The group, who control the state where Owen is based. They are in a position to make decisions, and are currently maintaining a "wait and see attitude" about the current situation.

Sources close to the group, however, say they are very nervous about the impact of any action concerning Owen. Mendelsohn has determined that he needed a greater cash flow from Great Western Sugar and people's money to reduce the major debt being caused in cash flow by Great Western Sugar.

Many of the practices just did not jibe with White's policy. In fact, White's was on pressure to Owen to sell more sugar and to get a better end to the situation.

"The growers are being paid on what the sugar sells for so the best thing for the growers, Owen knew this and knew nothing about the sugar economy as far as we've converted."

The company is basically sound," the grower said, "I think this is a sound company and can't milk enough out of it the sugar company to maintain it...I hear of growers problems with their loans and credits. But we're very nervous about their going broke. We'd like to know of the pay going to sound."

He admitted, however, that many growers are outside the dismember factions inside and outside the company, "It doesn't affect us much...but..." all surface at the annual meeting scheduled for this week.

Despite White's "encourage" and "can't pay the company's debts" for coming months, Mendelsohn admits that the firm will make a change in the next two weeks. A fine group of companies, "It's going to be a hard time for the man," he said, "this company is in the danger of going down the tube."

"I think I growing loss of control company," Mendelsohn says, "because of Mr. White's over-enforcement can be seen. If ever we've seen a group of companies in one man's leadership it is this one."

Mendelsohn concedes that he will not have the voting strength to run this company. "We have to be realistic," he said, "he has more of the votes than the other men combined."

Mendelsohn and his associates have sold 200,000 shares of stock with a one-tenth voting strength, or 60,500 votes.

White's vote is the per cent of the

Great Western Sugar Company RESEARCH LIBRARY

Page 6 of 6

"Mr. Owen and I have always been good friends..."
'Oust White' Attempt

From Page 3

Mendelsohn says he’s made no attempt to collect proxies or make a serious challenge “at this time.”

But he said he intends to put stockholders on notice, and make them aware of the situation. From that point, he said, he will “actively work for White’s ouster with notice to the Securities and Exchange Commission and so forth.”

White, for his part, says Mendelsohn has a perfect right to attend the meeting and say what he pleases. White also said his attorneys feel there is a possibility that what his opponent is now doing may be a violation of Security and Exchange Commission laws. In effect, this would mean Mendelsohn was soliciting proxies by his pronouncements without notifying the SEC.

“We intend to continue to manage our business well,” White said, “and have a calm, cool, collected annual meeting.

“I don’t anticipate that he is going to have many allies. I neither know nor care if someone is trying to spread rumors about our company,” White said.

“I know we’ve been doing our job and doing it well. We have no debts coming due we can’t meet and no abnormal business plans of any sort contemplated.

“All signals are normal.”
As for Mendelsohn? “I wish no harm to anyone,” White said.
GWU's Roadman

Cervi's J.
Sept. 16, 1971

GWU's Roadman 'Leaving' Company

Harry Roadman, long-time Great Western United executive, will leave the corporation, reliable sources told Cervi's Journal.

Roadman is currently Vice-President of Organization and Personnel at GWU. He started with Great Western shortly after the corporation was first formed.

When contacted by Cervi's, Roadman at first denied he was leaving GWU.

Subsequently, Cervi's talked to William White, president and chairman of the board of GWU who said, "You'd have to ask Mr. Roadman about that. I know that he has been considering forming his own business in the area of executive search. I told him if he did that Great Western would be his first client."

"The last time I discussed it with Harry he hadn't made up his mind," White said.

When contacted later, Roadman confirmed what White had said, and added, however, he "still hadn't" made up his mind.

If such a resignation comes, Roadman said, he doesn't know when it will be. "It's still in the thinking stage," he said.

The report from usually reliable sources to Cervi's said that Roadman had either been asked to resign or was fired. Roadman was previously with I.B.M. and was responsible for bringing several I.B.M. employees to GWU the source said.

More on Page 3

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GWU's Roadman

From Page 1

"He is a very able, capable guy," the report said, "and on the eve of the annual meeting this is a very interesting development."

Inside sources say that Roadman was asked by White to stay until after the firm's annual meeting being held today in Colorado City. White, it is said, did not want the added embarrassment of having another top officer leave before the meeting.

Roadman's salary last year was $58,887. He has 1,000 shares of stock on a stock option plan and another 4,200 subject to option. The average price per share for his stock is $41.41. This is contrast to the GWU current market price of $26.
Great Western United critic seeks to sell stock

BY MORTON L. MARGOLIN
Rocky Mountain News Business Editor

Great Western United Corp. disclosed Monday it is preparing a registration statement for filing with the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) to pave the way for N.K. Mendelsohn and his associates to sell their preferred stock in the company.

Mendelsohn, now of Los Angeles, sold his city's development firm to Great Western United, and for a time was head of the firm's Great Western Cities subsidiary.

The Los Angeles developer sold the companies, including California City, Colorado City and Cochita Lake development in New Mexico, in 1969 and stayed on to run them until January 1976.

Parting not amicable

The parting was not entirely amicable, and since then Mendelsohn has become one of the chief critics of the management of Great Western United by William M. White, president and chairman of the board of the Denver-based conglomerate.

Several weeks ago the two clashed over who was responsible for certain real estate operations criticized by Ralph Nader in connection with California City.

Subsequently Mendelsohn, who now heads North American Cities, announced he will propose some changes in management at the annual stockholders meeting of Great Western United. That meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday in the Holiday Inn at Colorado City.

Neil Peck, chief counsel for Great Western United, said Mendelsohn asked for the registration statement on June 22. But Peck added that his legal staff has not yet prepared the material.

"We are working at it, but it is a big job and we've had a lot of other things going," said Peck. "We will get it out as soon as possible."

The attorney explained that the rights to the information needed for such a registration statement are usually granted when a property is taken over in an exchange of stock. It involves corporate operating figures not usually available to the stockholder.

Such a registration statement is very detailed and requires a great deal of information available only to the operating corporation.

It would be virtually impossible for the seller to prepare the necessary statement if he wanted to get rid of his block of stock.

"Exercise those rights"

"The rights to have us prepare the material were part of the sales agreement," Peck noted, "and he has decided to exercise those rights."

Mendelsohn personally owns 41,620 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock and 38,965 shares of $1.88 cumulative preferred stock in Great Western United.

In addition, Mendelsohn's new company, North American Towns Inc., holds 150,000 shares of the $3 convertible preferred stock and Mendelsohn's associates, including New York attorney Barney Bernstein and New York businessman Adolph Krehman, hold an additional 91,506 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock.

The convertible preferred stock carries one-tenth of a vote for each share at the stockholders meeting.

In announcing the request for the registration statement, a Great Western United spokesman said, "Management feels it is important to clarify Mr. Mendelsohn's position before this week's annual meeting of stockholders in view of the widespread press attention to the forthcoming meeting."

Mendelsohn postpones conference with press

Natl. K. Mendelsohn, a Los Angeles real estate developer who is a major shareholder in Great Western United Corp., and a leading critic of the Denver conglomerate's management, arrived here Tuesday and immediately postponed a meeting with waiting reporters.

Mendelsohn, who formerly owned the properties which make up the development communities of Great Western Cities, a GWU subsidiary, met briefly with reporters in the lobby of his downtown hotel and told them he would issue a statement later, after consultation with his attorneys.

Mendelsohn had announced earlier that he would propose management changes at the Great Western United shareholders meeting Thursday in Colorado City near Pueblo.

After selling his development properties in New Mexico, Colorado and California to Great Western United in 1969, Mendelsohn was president of Great Western Cities until January 1970 when he left the company, reportedly after stormy disagreement with William M. White, president and chairman of the parent company.

Mendelsohn has said he owns 41,620 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock and 38,965 shares of $1.88 cumulative preferred stock in Great Western United.

And his company, North American Towns Inc., holds 150,000 shares of the $3 convertible preferred and two business associates hold 91,506 more shares of the $3 convertible preferred.

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Each share of the convertible preferred carries one-tenth of a vote at shareholder's meetings.

The Rocky Mountain News reported Tuesday that Great Western United has prepared a registration statement for filing with the Securities & Exchange Commission covering the sale of Mendelsohn's stock.

The company noted however, that such statements were usually under circumstances where property is accepted by the company in an exchange for stock.

Mendelsohn reportedly requested the registration statement on June 22 but has given no public indication to date that he intends to sell his Great Western United holdings.
GWU to Register For Buying Stock

By GEORGE JOHNSTON  
Denver Post Financial Editor

Great Western United Corp. (GWU) is preparing a registration statement for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission to allow N. K. Mendelsohn and his associates to sell their preferred stock, valued at about $6 million, to the company. GWU officials announced.

Mendelsohn, now of Los Angeles, formerly was president of Great Western Cities, Inc., a GWU subsidiary. Mendelsohn sold the cities development firm to GWU in 1969 and was president of the cities' group until January 1970.

Great Western Cities is developing Colorado City, California City and Cochiti Lake development in New Mexico.

GWU said that Mendelsohn personally owns 41,620 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock and 38,565 shares of $1.88 cumulative preferred stock. Additionally, Mendelsohn's new company, North American Towns, Inc., holds 150,000 shares of the $3 convertible preferred stock, and Mendelsohn's associates, including Barney Bernstein, a New York attorney, and Adolph Krejzman, a New York businessman, hold an additional 91,506 shares of $3 convertible preferred stock.

Husky Oil OKs Empire Offer

Husky Oil Ltd., which has regional offices in Denver, announced Tuesday its board of directors has approved in principle an offer to acquire the remaining publicly held common stock of Empire State Oil Co. of Thermopolis, Wyo.

The announcement came as the board of Empire State Oil announced it will provide a full appraisal of the company's oil and gas reserves to Husky officials by Oct. 1.

Glenn E. Nielsen of Cody, Wyo., is board chairman of both oil companies.

Husky proposes to exchange 1.125 shares of its common stock for each share of Empire State's common tendered by the stockholders of Empire State. Husky now owns 55 per cent of all outstanding common stock of Empire and is seeking at least 80 per cent.

White Criticized

Since his departure as president of Great Western Cities, Mendelsohn has been one of the chief critics of GWU and its president and chairman of the board, William M. White.

The two clashed several weeks ago over responsibility for certain real estate operations and Mendelsohn said he will propose some management changes at the annual stockholders meeting of GWU Thursday at Colorado City.

GWU said that when that company acquired Mendelsohn's companies, Mendelsohn and his associates received the right to request registration to sell their shares, a right that now is being exercised.

Officials of GWU said it was uncertain when the registration would be filed.
Henderson Moves To Top Ag Post in Nebraska District

About the only sure thing that’s constant on the agenda of the Great Western Sugar Company is that reshuffling of duties continues. This week, Leonard Henderson, who has been the chief at Scottsbluff and Gering, takes on full agricultural duties for the Nebraska district.

Although Henderson will remain stationed at Scottsbluff, his main effort will be at the district level. In this capacity, he will have Bill Gray as his assistant. Gray has been assistant agricultural manager at Goodland, Kansas.

Scottsbluff and Gering district beet growers have a veteran beet man to help them with their production problems. Moving to Scottsbluff will be Gordon Hobert who has acted as assistant at Bayard.

George Lappasotes, who has been in this area as assistant ag manager for both Scottsbluff and Gering, has moved to Ft. Morgan. He will be the agricultural assistant to the general manager of the Southeast District in Colorado.

W. C. McGuflay, district general manager at Scottsbluff, announced the changes. All men were taking care of new duties this week.

Ostermiller, Davis Given New Positions

Jack Powell, district general manager of the Great Western Sugar Co.'s Northeast Colorado District, today announced several changes in the agricultural field assignments for his district.

Changes are a part of Great Western’s previously announced realignment offield personnel, Powell said, and are intended to place more authority and responsibility at the field management level.

Jim Gonyou, as district agricultural manager, has been assigned full responsibility for the total agricultural program in the district, Powell said. He will be assisted by J. V. Ostermiller and LaMar Henry as assistant district agricultural managers — Ostermiller in the Fort Morgan-Ovid-Sterling area and Henry in the Goodland, Kan., area.

“Each factory district will now have an agricultural administrator who is charged with the administrative responsibility for agriculture in his district as well as line responsibilities,” Powell said.

Changes also include the promotion of Merle Riggs, former agriculture manager at Ovid, and Lester Garber, former agricultural manager at Sterling, to the new position of agricultural administrator at their respective factories.

Norm Davis, former assistant agricultural manager at Fort Morgan, has been promoted to agricultural administrator of the Fort Morgan facility.

“Every member of the agricultural field staff under the district agricultural manager will be directly responsible for the creation and implementation of approved programs for his assigned area,” Powell stressed.

All changes are effective immediately.

Sanborn Promoted To District Post

Robert Sanborn, agricultural manager at the Greeley Great Western Sugar Co. factory for the past two and a half years, has been promoted to assistant district agricultural manager and will now be based in Johnstown.

Al Robertson, a fieldman with the factory for the past four years, will assume the post of agricultural administrator at the factory here, with administrative responsibility for agriculture in his district.

Other area agricultural managers also have assumed the new agricultural administrator title.

All the changes are effective immediately, according to Great Western.

Dr. C. F. Davan, north central district general manager, said the changes are
Families Enjoy Gwesco Gathering

Many families of Great Western employees enjoyed the Gwesco family night at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Goodland on Sept. 8.

After the potluck supper names were drawn for door prizes of 10-pound bags of sugar donated by Great Western Sugar Co.

The rest of the evening was spent playing games. Prizes were donated by the Great Western employees pop fund, the Union and Great Western Sugar Co.

Some of the prize winners were Bob Degenhart, Jacki Wieck, Margaret Kelly, Raenita Artzer, Delores Degenhart, and Ceci Lynch.

Bill Wieck won an electric blender as one of the major prizes. Several new employees were introduced by Emmett Siebert. Hostesses were Nancy Lynch, Barb Degenhart, Karen Jacoby and Raenita Artzer.

The next regular club meeting will be Oct. 14 at the Blue Flame Room at 7:30 in the evening.

Pete Croissant attests fumigation value

Pete Croissant who has been growing sugarbeets most of his life never had yields under 20 tons per acre until 1967 when nematodes invaded his 400-acre farm near La Salle and dropped the yield to 15 tons in one field on seven tons in another.

He took soil samples for a nematode count and decided to try soil fumigation in 1969. He fumigated all his beet ground with Telone except a 13-acre check plot. The check plot yielded only 14 tons per acre as against 30 tons for the fumigated area.

"This convinced me," he said. "I've been fumigating ever since and my yields are back up."

Last year he got 24 tons per acre on a 75-acre plot and made the Great Western High Ten grower list in the Greeley district.

He fumigates in the spring but would fail fumigate if he had heavier soil on his farm.

"If I could fumigate in the fall," he said, "I would have it out of the way and could plant earlier in the spring. We started out using 18 gallons of fumigant per acre and it has done the job."

This year Croissant planted right after fumigation although the fumigant label calls for a waiting period of from seven to 14 days between fumigation and planting.

"Everyone said I was crazy," he said, "but it worked. I expect a 10 tons per acre increase in yield."

He is able to make such a prediction because one strip about 12 rows wide at one edge of the field didn't get fumigated. His plow sole rig hadn't been calibrated and while he was waiting for Great Western service men to arrive he went ahead and plowed the strip.

Nematode damage to these 12 rows of unfumigated beets plainly shows up three or four days after irrigation. The unfumigated beets wilt badly in comparison, showing nematode damage under drought stress.

The fumigant was applied at a depth of 11 inches and Croissant followed up by harrowing and floating the ground and planting two days after fumigation.
Beet, Corn Farmers Awaiting Harvests; Some Bean Harvesting, Need Hot Days

Depending upon whom you talk with, the 1971 sugar beet crop is "relatively weed-free" or slightly "weedier" than a year ago. But regardless, the beets in the Bayard factory district are coming along as they should for this time of year. And the beet producers are awaiting harvest.

Although most of the local corn crop may be out of the way of frost damage, there still are fields which need another two weeks to reach their best.

Those who rate this year's production highly continue to do so. For many farmers, 1971 will be an excellent corn year.

The start of the bean harvest in the area was a soggy one, with several good rains falling recently. What this has done to beans which have been down through the entire period is still anyone's guess. But there can be some grade damage if the cool weather continues any length of time (such as Tuesday and Wednesday of this week).

At this point, it is far to early to pinpoint trends of any kind. Harvest of beans has progressed 20-25 per cent in some places and as low as six per cent in other spots.

The outcome of the fall harvests will depend greatly on the whims of Mother Nature.

GW Makes Staff Changes

W. C. McGuffey, district general manager of The Great Western Sugar Company's Nebraska District, has announced several changes in agricultural field staff assignments for his district. The changes are a part of GW's previously-announced realignment of field personnel, McGuffey said, and are intended to place more authority and responsibility at the field management level.

Changes (of local interest) include the promotion of Gordon Hobert, former assistant manager at Bayard, to the new position of Agricultural Administrator for Scottsbluff and Gordon.

"Red" Johnson, Agricultural Manager at Bayard, will become Agricultural Administrator at his present post.

Basin Republican
Rustler, Wyo.

BEET HARVEST STARTS MONDAY

Great Western Sugar Co. receiving stations at Basin, Greybull and Manderson will begin accepting beets next Monday as the 1971 sugar beet harvest in southern Big Horn county gets under way. Piling will not begin, however, until October 1. The Emblem station will not be open until piling begins but some Emblem growers are expected to begin harvest early and deliver to the Greybull receiving station.

An unusually high yield is expected this year necessitating a long processing season. For this reason the stations are opening a little earlier than usual. The September sampling indicates sugar content is about normal but the greatly higher yield indicates an exceptional crop this year.
Six migrant families file suits

Six families of migrant workers filed suit Wednesday in Denver District Court for breach of contract against Great Western Sugar Co., Great Western Employment Agency and sugar beet farmers who contract with the company.

In each case, the migrant families involved weren't allowed to do the amount of work they believed they were going to get when they were recruited in Texas, the suit charged. In each case the families had worked in previous years for the sugar beet farmers involved, it claims.

When the 12 members of a family named Gutierrez were recruited by the Great Western Employment Agency in Edinburg, Texas, to work the Colorado beet fields of Paul Gergen, they expected about the same amount and type of work and pay they had received from Gergen in past years, the suit explains.

The suit says the family worked 70 acres for $11 an acre, 58 acres at $10 an acre and 40 acres at $8 an acre. When Gergen then asked them to work another 20 acres for $6 an acre, they refused and Gergen laid them off, according to the complaint.

The family asks for $5,288, the total amount due on 188 acres two times through at $28.50 per acre, less the amount actually paid."

A family named Gonzales faced a similar situation with farmer Gerald Plautz, the suit continues, after they were recruited by the Great Western agency in Rio Hondo, Tex.

They arrived at the farm, hoed 228.8 acres and weeded 263.3 acres on the second time through when "Plautz refused to allow plaintiffs to work 123.5 acres through a second time, as defendant had originally promised."

The family was paid $8,000 for its work. In the suit they asked for another $1,270 for weeding the remaining 123.5 acres.

A family named Pena, recruited in Lubbock, Tex., by the agency, came to Colorado and worked fields belonging to Herman Adolf at an understood price of $28.50 for 125 acres, the suit says.

But, it continues, Adolf refused to pay the understood price and paid them a lesser rate of $1.85 an hour for only 30 acres, refusing to let them finish the entire 125 acres. They ask $3,562, less the amount they were paid.

Families named Guillen and Saldivar, both of which had worked on the farm of Leon Silliman for the past two years, came to Colorado expecting to work 100 acres each, they contend.

The Guillens worked approximately six acres at $17.50 an acre and 9.5 acres at $10 an acre before Silliman refused to let them continue working, the suit charges.

And, it continues, the Saldivar family worked only five acres at $17.50 an acre and 8.5 acres at $10 an acre before they were laid off.

Another similar suit said the De La Pena family came from Del Rio, Tex., to work on the farm of Carl Arends at an agreed wage of $28.50 an acre for 109 acres.

They worked 109 acres the first time through at the agreed upon wage, the suit says, and 34 acres the second time through before Arends tried to get them to accept an hourly wage. They refused and were laid off, they claim.

That suit also carries charges by the Hernandez family, which was not recruited by Great Western Employment Agency, that Arends agreed to let them work 45 acres at $28.50 an acre. The family worked the fields the first time through and were through 20 acres of weeding when Arends tried to get them to work for $1.85 an hour, the suit says. When they refused, they were told to stop working.
Ex-Great Western Cities head to question policies

BY ROBERT A. BURNS
Rocky Mountain News Writer

Nat K. Mendelson, former president of Great Western Cities and a substantial shareholder in Great Western United Corp., said Wednesday he'll question the firm's management at the annual meeting Thursday on issues ranging from statements about his past role in the diversified firm to the company's current cash flow position.

Mendelson, who now heads North American Cities Inc., a Los Angeles property development concern, told of his intention to scrutinize the affairs of the company during a press conference at his Denver hotel.

"The company has scheduled its annual meeting for 10 a.m. Thursday at the Holiday Inn in Colorado City, south of Pueblo."

Mendelson told reporters that he takes strong objection to recent statements attributed to William M. White Jr., president and chairman of the conglomerate, concerning Mendelson's departure from the company in 1970.

"The Los Angeles developer's ties to the company date to 1960, when Great Western United purchased his three community development projects—California City, Colorado City and Ocochi Lake development in New Mexico. Mendelson was president of Great Western Cities until early last year."

"Policy differences"

"White asked me to resign on Jan. 27, 1970, in Los Angeles, and I resigned," Mendelson said. "At the time it was stated my resignation had to do with policy differences with White, and I think that's what White said at the time."

Mendelson noted that in a recent Denver Post article White was quoted as saying that if Mendelson "opens his mouth" at the annual meeting White would "read the list of reasons Mr. Mendelson was terminated."

"I would be very interested in having that list read," Mendelson said. "I regard the statement as a threat. I am concerned that this kind of statement suggests some wrongdoing on my part, and if there had been some wrongdoing it should have been brought to light at the time," he added.

"This statement is consistent with a series of statements attributed to the company and Mr. White over the past weeks. If these statements attributed to White are accurately attributed, they are libelous and call for the strongest action on my part," he added.

Mendelson declined to comment on the possibility of legal action.

"I hope Mr. White will see fit to correct the record as early as possible and not later than tomorrow's meeting," he said. I intend to ask him to substantiate the statements attributed to him."

"Wholly improper attacks"

Mendelson said comments attributed to White in an article in Cervi's Journal and in a press release from the company's public relations firm were "wholly improper attacks on me and my business practices."

Several former Mendelson and White executives were responsible for certain business practices at the California City Development which is now in for strong criticism from consumer advocates.

"I have already looked at various properties in the state and I'll be looking at more, but I can't take any action until at least July," he said.

"Operating profitably"

Mendelson noted that part of the agreement under which he swapped his properties for stock in Great Western United was a noncompetition clause which expires in May next year.

"I agreed not to compete in certain specific areas, he said, noting that the past prevented development activities by him in Pueblo County, in the Westcliffe, Silver Cliff and Cripple Creek areas, in the area near Ocochi Lake in New Mexico and in one county in California."

Regarding Great Western's current operations, Mendelson said he considered White's management "highly centralized," and that "behind the surface, forms the real way in which management proceeds in a manner cutting across responsibilities distributed to others."

Asked about the company's financial status, Mendelson said reports indicate the firm is in "a tight cash flow position."

"But I distinguish between that and the total net worth of the company. The company is stronger in net worth than it appears, and things like $40 million to $50 million in contingent receivables aren't reflected in net worth," he said.

Mendelson said it appeared to him that each of the firm's divisions—Great Western Cities, Shakey's Inc. and Great Western Sugar—were "operating profitably."

"Each of these companies has a record of profitability and all have many good people working very hard to keep them profitable," he added.

"The California developer also said he is in sympathy with many of the people that suggest the Denver investor Gerald Armstrong, which will be voted upon at Thursday's meeting."

"I'll be asking some questions of my own about cash flow and other aspects of the firm's business at that meeting," Mendelson said.

Asked for comment upon statements made by Mendelson, Great Western United said, "The company welcomes Mr. Mendelson to its annual meeting and invites him to ask responsible questions about its affairs just as it invites all other shareholders to ask such questions."

"They are libelous and call for the strongest action on my part," he added.

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White to Answer Mendelsohn Quiz

By GEORGE JOHNSTON
Denver Post Financial Editor

William M. White, chairman of the board and president of Great Western United Corp., (GWU), Denver-based conglomerate, said Wednesday “I will answer any responsible questions” at Thursday's annual meeting of GWU shareholders scheduled at Colorado City, 25 miles south of Pueblo.

White made his comment after a Wednesday morning press conference held by N. K. Mendelsohn, Los Angeles land developer whom White fired as president of Great Western Cities, a GWU subsidiary, early last year. Mendelsohn indicated Wednesday he had a number of questions to ask of White.

White added: “I will entertain questions from anyone at the (Thursday) meeting including those of Mr. Mendelsohn.”

White indicated he would have no further comment until the meeting.

Mendelsohn charged at his Denver press conference that “recent statements attributed to William M. White are, in my opinion, libelous and call for strongest action on my part.”

Mendelsohn said he was particularly concerned with statements attributed to White “that there was some wrongdoing on my (Mendelsohn’s) part” in transactions related to California Cities, one of the Great Western Cities properties.

Mendelsohn also took issue at a statement by White in last Sunday’s Denver Post that if Mendelsohn “opens his mouth” at the shareholders meeting, he (White) “would read the list of reasons Mr. Mendelsohn was terminated.”

“I regard that statement as a threat, Mendelsohn said Wednesday. “I certainly plan to open my mouth, and at some length, at the meeting.”

Mendelsohn said “I would like to think that Mr. White did not, in fact, make these statements. I hope that Mr. White will see fit to correct his statements as soon as possible and no later than Thursday’s meeting. If not, I will ask him to attribute those statements,” Mendelsohn declared.

Asked if GWU appeared to be in financial difficulty, Mendelsohn said that “I think the company is in a tight cash flow position,” but that the firm’s net worth is “substantial.”

He said that all three divisions of GWU—Great Western Sugar Co., Great Western Cities and Shakey’s Pizza chain—are “operating profitably and are essentially good businesses.

“But if management of three good businesses cannot keep the cash flow in balance, then that management is deficient,” Mendelsohn said. “And I intend to ask questions at the meeting on the cash flow problem.”

Other Questions

In addition to Mendelsohn, several others have indicated they intend to speak and-or ask questions at the stockholders’ meeting.

Gerald Armstrong, a self-proclaimed advocate of shareholder rights, is the author of a number of resolutions that will be put forward at the meeting.

Included is a proposal to elect an alternate slate of directors for GWU.

Several representatives of the Mountain States Beet Growers Assn. say they intend to be at the Colorado City meeting and will ask some questions concerning operations of Great Western Sugar Co.
GWU Shareholders Defeat Proposals

By GEORGE JOHNSTON
Denver Post Financial Editor

Proposals for a new board of directors and a number of resolutions on business affairs were defeated overwhelmingly in early action Thursday at the fourth annual meeting of Great Western United Corp. at Colorado City, 25 miles south of Pueblo.

William M. White, chairman and president of GWU, said about 65 per cent of the company's stock was represented in person or by proxy at the meeting. He announced that all matters in the proxy statement had been acted on in accordance with management recommendations.

This made defeat of the alternate list of directors and nine of the resolutions a formality.

The nine resolutions had been presented earlier by Gerald Armstrong, self-proclaimed stockholders' advocate. The company had voted to oppose all those resolutions, including ones for cumulative voting, more detailed financial statements and improved post-meeting reports.

In addition, Armstrong presented seven more resolutions from the floor—including one that White not be re-elected president and chairman.

White expressed his opposition to all the new resolutions, and they received little support in the voting.

Listed on Armstrong's proposed new board were Chet Huntley, former TV newscaster; Mrs. Audrey Six, wife of Continental Airlines President Robert Six, and Ezra Taft Benson, former agriculture secretary. Armstrong declined to say whether he had their permission to add them to the list.

Another name on the list was that of N. K. Mendelsohn, Los Angeles land developer, who was fired by White early last year as president of Great Western Cities, a GWU subsidiary.

Mendelsohn, who still owns a substantial amount of GWU stock, was at the meeting and said he hadn't been asked to be on the list. But he said that "since this may be my only way of expressing my displeasure with the current board," he would allow his name to remain.

White, in a brief review of GWU's business affairs during the past year, said the prime purpose of recent personnel changes has been to "professionalize the management team," and that he now believes GWU has "an excellent staff."

White disclosed that GWU currently is dealing with Chase Manhattan Bank of New York for a $46 million line of credit, primarily for development of Great Western Cities. He also said other lines of credit were being arranged for Great Western Sugar Co., another GWU subsidiary.

Interest in the Thursday meeting focused on a question-and-answer period promised by White for the end of the agenda. Mendelsohn, at a press conference in Denver Wednesday, had promised to enliven this session.

Also expected to be heard were representatives of the Mountain States Beet Growers Association.
GWU Revolt Beaten Down

By GEORGE JOHNSTON
Denver Post Financial Editor

Nine resolutions had been presented earlier by Gerald Armstrong, self-proclaimed stockholders advocate. The company had voted to oppose all those resolutions, including ones for cumulative voting, more detailed financial statements and improved post-meeting reports.

In addition, Armstrong presented seven more resolutions from the floor— including one that White be re-elected president and chairman.

Among those on Armstrong's proposed new board were Chet Hunley, former TV newscaster; Mrs. Audrey Six, wife of Continental Airlines President Robert Six; and Ezra Taft Benson, former agriculture secretary. Armstrong declined to say whether he had their permission for candidacy.

Another name on the list was that of N. K. Mendelsohn, Los Angeles land developer, who was fired by White early last year as president of Great Western Cities, a GWU subsidiary.

Mendelsohn, who still owns a substantial amount of GWU stock, was at the meeting and said he hadn't asked to be on the list. But he said that "since this may be my only way of expressing my displeasure with the current board," he would allow his name to remain.

Just before adjournment for lunch, Mendelsohn addressed the meeting for nearly a half hour, airing grievances against White and criticizing management practices.

In a later question and answer period, Mendelsohn questioned White at length on a number of land dealings, primarily pertaining to one of the company's properties in California.

Among his charges were that present management is not keeping several "commitments" which were previously made.

Mendelsohn charged that "we have a growing weakness in management, not the professionalism that you have been hearing about. It is management by one man, which can be very dangerous."

The speech covered charges made by Mendelsohn at a Wednesday press conference in Denver.

"I call on Mr. White to make clear if he thinks there was any wrongdoing or improper practices during my stewardship of Great Western Cities," he said in the close.

White responded briefly: "It is not my business or that of the company to impugn the reputation of employees or past employees," he said.

"While we wish Mr. Mendelsohn no harm and welcome him to this meeting, I would like you to remember that he is a former employee and that fact may influence his opinions," White told stockholders.

"We operate above the standards of the law and have imposed standards of excellence," he said. "We felt that Mr. Mendelsohn and some of his people did not meet that excellence in some respects."

White, in a brief review of GWU's business affairs during the past year, said the prime purpose of recent personnel changes has been to "professionalize the management team," and that he now believes GWU has "an excellent staff."

White disclosed that GWU is currently dealing with Chase Manhattan Bank of New York for a $46 million line of credit, primarily for development of Great Western Cities.

White also said that his company had arranged for a $70 million line of credit for operations of Great Western Sugar Co.

White later fielded a large number of questions from Armstrong and a few from others in the audience on sugar beet operations.

Asked if any of Great Western's sugar plants might close, White said there are no plans to close any "with the possible exception of the Greeley factory."

He explained that it will require a large expenditure to bring the factory up to operational and ecological standard and that there has been slow beet production in north-central Colorado.

"But," White said, "if the growers will increase their acreage, we will spend whatever is required to improve the factory."

He also announced that a "$100 Million Club" had been organized in an effort to increase the contributions that agriculture makes to the north-central area. He said the company is making every effort to improve agricultural conditions there.

He made those comments after a stockholder, Mrs. Walter Nottingham of Longmont, noted that she lived near the sugar area "and that morale among the growers appeared bad."

N. K. MENDELSON
"It is management by one man."

GERALD ARMSTRONG
His proposals took a beating.
Management is the winner in GWU showdown vote

By MORTON L. MARGOLIN

CITADEL CITY—Discontent shareholders have made it sound like a meeting of Great Western dis-United Thursday as they called William M. White to account for his stewardship as president and chairman of the Denver-based conglomerate.

But White, who had enough proxy votes in his corporate pocket to win even before the first gavel brought the meeting to order, stayed cool in the saddle and firmly in control.

Not that there weren't some sour marks left after the nearly five-hour session, which had to be recessed for a business break.

But when the votes were tallied, management of Great Western United had returned its slate of directors to office with a vote of 74 percent of the outstanding stock, and had defeated all 16 of the stockholder proposals it opposed.

Considering that management had held well over 1.5 million votes at its disposal, it was remarkable 44,054 were cast in favor of a resolution offered from the floor requesting the board not to re-elect White as president and chairman.

Those votes had come from the floor as there was no prior notice to those who voted in proxies.

Another motion offered from the floor urging that all future meetings be held in financial centers with air transportation drawn even greater support—some 45,674.

In the course of the day, management was told:

- Morale is low among sugar beet growers who "don't think the new management knows the difference between a beet and a bull."
- Management has reneged on promises to those who bought land in California City.
- The company is paying out more than twice as much in interest as it is in dividends.
- It has spent millions and not followed through on development of the projects it acquired.
- Stockholders are worried about the future of their dividends.
- These were the highlights of the stockholder complaints. They looked considerably different from White's side of the podium.

He opened the meeting by welcoming the crowd of nearly 200 to the company's development community 26 miles south of Pueblo.

White announced he held proxies for more than 75 percent of the outstanding stock with a majority of it voted for management.

In that no-way-to-lose position he praised the ideals of corporate democracy, noted there were some special interests present, and announced everyone would have a chance to be heard. And they were, even though it took until nearly 3 p.m. to hear them out.

White sidestepped discussion of 1973 results, which showed a loss of $23.5 million after an extraordinary writeoff of more than $105 million, as the result of new accounting procedures on land sales.

"You all have the annual report," White said. "I don't want to dwell on 1973, I want to step back and put the last five years into a larger perspective, and talk a bit of the direction in future years."

He called the years before 1965 "prebustary" and said his takeover of the company had as its purpose to bring more modern management to an old conservative company.

White spoke of the company as one that was gradually losing earning potential, and of the need to reposition it to growth through the acquisition of Stahely's Pizza and California Cities, which later became Great Western Cities.

"We have professionalized our management organization, we have gotten control of our finances; we have had to change personnel, a process not with pain."

"The transformation and professionalization changes are fairly complete. We are now ready for a period of profitable growth, although I will not predict what we will make in the future," White continued.

White told stockholders the company was nearing final negotiations for $60 million in credit from a group of banks headed by Chase Manhattan Bank.

"We have a $10 million credit for the sugar company," he announced, "and directors, prior to the meeting, approved a plan for issuance of new Great Western United Stock in an amount and at a time to be determined at a later date."

White said there would be no pre-emptive rights for stockholders when the new stock is issued.

The incumbent board of directors was re-nominated, and that was quickly followed by an alternate slate offered from the floor by Gerald M. Armstrong of Denver, the author of 16 resolutions which were defeated.

Armstrong's slate included Mrs. Mary Wells Lawrence, New York advertising executive; Chet Humby; Harold Greens, president of ITT; Robert Oxen, former president of Great Western Sugar; Ezra Taff Benson; Walter Hinkel; Louis Geiter, president of the Skyline National Bank, and N.K. Mendelson.

Mendelson was the most severe critic, as he made it clear he wanted White to restructure the company, and said all at the time he managed Great Western Cities.

He was the one who, in charge White had reneged on promises to build a civic center building in California City. He charged Great Western Cities personnel had lied to the company's investors on the issue and were being scrutinized by more than 75 percent of the investors. When he did, they told him whether or not the building would be built.

Mendelson's declaration cost him a seat on the floor in the meeting, and added another vote to the extent of 78 percent.

This is a copy of the final vote, which he estimated as being worth about $100,000.

"We have no plan to shut any plants with the possible exception of the Greeley plant, which would require a tremendous expenditure of funds to meet ecological standards."

Mrs. Walter Nottingham of Longmont who told White best growers were driven and added, "People say your new men don't know how to run a business."

While responded by announcing the formation of a $120 million club to boost the contribution agriculture makes in northeastern Colorado. Anyone who wants to be a member of our booster club, he explained, offering Mrs. Nottingham a large black and white button with the words "$100,000 Club" emblazoned across it in black letters.

As to the high interest payments, White said he couldn't like that either, but the company was stuck with a $23 million loan made during the highest interest rate period, when it was charged 13.5 percent.

That rate had been reduced through negotiations.

He pledged there would be no reduction in dividends and said the company intended to keep paying 6 cents a year on common stock "year after year after year after year."
October four is day beet harvest begins

The 1971 sugar beet harvest is planned to begin at the Eaton Factory District on Monday, Oct. 4, with restricted delivery until Saturday, Oct. 9.

Beets are trucked to the Eaton factory and in order to properly handle this movement of beets prior to Oct. 9th, it will be necessary that we designate special receiving stations, Don Redman said.

The stations that will be open on Oct. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, are as follows: Factory, Ault, South Pierce, and Severance. During the restricted period these stations will open at 8 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. or until the quota is reached.

Growers who normally deliver to receiving stations not open on Oct. 4, through 8, will have alternate stations to haul to if they so desire. They are as follows:

Station .......... Alternate Station Stage ............ Ault or So. Pierce Pierce ............... So. Pierce Hurric ........... Factory or Severance Black Hollow ........ Severance

Any grower hauling beets to the factory station who is not contracted to the factory station as his primary station, will be paid established truck rates for the beets so delivered to the factory station.

If, however, a representative of the company decides the delivery of beets to the factory station exceeds the limits of the receiving station equipment, he then has the right to stop delivery of beets from growers outside the station until the delivery slows to where the equipment capacity can handle more beets.

All stations, Factory, Ault, Stage, Pierce, South Pierce, Severance, Hurric, and Black Hollow will be open Oct. 9 for unrestrict-ed delivery of beets. Receiving hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Paragraph 4 of the Beets Contract is again called to grower's attention and especially cooperation in delivery of the crop to the stations to the best of the farmer's ability, properly topped, free from clods, dirt, trash and foreign material.

Redman concluded with this statement: "We hope you have a good harvest and please feel free to visit the warehouse and factory operations any time."

Beef sugar firms officials to meet

Beef sugar industry representatives from most of the Midwest and Western states will meet in Denver Wednesday with state water pollution and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials to discuss effluent guidelines applying to beef sugar production.

The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in the U.S. Custom House.

Jack Green, regional administrator for EPA, said Robert Burn of Corvallis, Ore., will serve as chairman of the meeting. Burn is an engineer in the food waste research program for EPA.

Michael LaGraff of Washington, D.C., EPA coordinator for the development of effluent guidelines for 19 industries, also will attend.

May Help Sugar Beets

Chemicals to stop or slow down plant growth are being tested at the Scotts Bluff Station, and they may have a place in sugarbeet production.

Eight different chemicals were sprayed on sugarbeet foliage about Sept. 1. The theory is to retard new leaf development, so that carbohydrates being produced by existing leaves will go into root growth instead of being used to produce new leaf tissue. Hopefully, this will result in more tonnage of beets and no drop or an increase in sugar percentage will result.

This process would be of great value to sugarbeet producers. Fall rains and cool weather often reactivates beet leaf growth late in the season. This new growth utilizes stored carbohydrates and sugars in the roots and the end result is a lower sugar content at harvest.

GW Reshuffle Brings Hobert Promotion

W. C. McGuffey, District General Manager of the Great Western Sugar Company's Nebraska District, has announced several changes in agricultural field staff assignments for the district. The changes are a part of Great Western's previously-announced realignment of field personnel.

Changes announced by McGuffey include the promotion of Gordon Hobert, who has been Assistant Agricultural Manager at Bayard, to the new position of Agricultural Administrator for Scotts Bluff and Gering. According to McGuffey, "Every member of the agricultural field staff under the District Agricultural Manager Leonard Henderson, will be directly responsible for the creation and implementation of approved programs for his assigned area."

L. L. "Red" Johnson, Agricultural Manager at Bayard, and R. Gordon Rudolph who holds the same position at Mitchell, will become Agricultural Administrators at their respective factories.
Sweet smell of success

There's nothing like the sweet smell of success to bring smiles popping to the surface. And these three happy gents are standing hip deep in what looks like a sure winner.

The guy in the center, Herman Strauch, has cause to be happiest because the sugar beet he's holding is just one from thousands in his field in which the men are standing. All those sugar-laden beets will soon be on their way to market.

The other two men, Great Western Sugar Company personnel, have almost equal cause to be happy. Recent samplings indicate this year's sugarbeet crop will be the best in five years.

That's Bill Ullman, on the left, GW Agriculturist from Brighton who calls Strauch's field "one of the better fields in the district."

On the right is Carl Luft, manager of the GW Grower Service Center at Platteville.

—HERALD photo

Town approves
Bella Vista
Zoning Thurs.

Platteville town board approved zoning, as presented on map, for Bella Vista Subdivision Thurs. night. They also asked their attorney to draw up an ordinance for same.

Paco Sanchez Development Co. which will develop the subdivision is currently working to fulfill a few more requirements asked by FHA to qualify for loan funds. Town expects the Development Co. will be ready to move about the middle of Oct.

Man and nature join productive forces

With beet harvest 1971, tentatively scheduled to start Oct. 5 or 6, all systems are go for what looks like the most successful launch in many years.

Field samples taken by Great Western Sugar Company men in the area recently checked out AOK as to weight of beets, per cent sugar, purity of beet juice and the stand. John Stewart, Agricultural Manager of Great Western's Brighton District, said last week, "The most recent sampling shows (beets) are better this year than we have had for any of the previous five years."

Managers of adjoining factory districts are reporting similar good news.

What's so different about this year?

Favorable weather

The biggest favorable factor has been agreeable weather. This bonanza from nature coupled with increased scientific agricultural knowledge makes the beet harvest look most promising. Some optimistic company personnel and farmers are betting (unofficially) on a 28 to over 30 ton yield from some of the better fields.

But even when Mother Nature smiles it takes plenty of knowledge, plain hard work and farmer intuition to produce a really special crop of beets—or any other crop for that matter.

"One of the better fields of beets in the Platteville area" is located within the city limits of the town and is being farmed by Herman Strauch. Because the field has looked outstanding all season and because of its proximity location to a population center the field has attracted a lot of attention.

Front row center

(We've probably had more than usual personal interest in the field because it's located right next door and we've had front-row center seats to observe the activity there and to watch the plants sprout up to luxuriant, green maturity.)

Bill Ullman, G. W. Agriculturist for Brighton district, affirmed it's undoubtedly "one of the better fields in the district." He said "timeliness" was one of the most important factors in the field's apparent success.

The field was planted with incorporation of Ro-neet by GW Grower Service Center on March 26. Regularly treated GW beet seed were planted. "Here's where Herman's good farming practices really paid off," explained Ullman. "He had prepared his ground well and had enough moisture to get the beets up."

From there Ma Nature assumed temporary control and supplied just the right amount of rainfall to give the young plants a good start.

Strauch didn't have to rev up the pump to start irrigating until about the middle of June.

Mechanization

In the beginning it was planned to use 100 per cent mechanization on the field, Ullman explained.

Strauch had incorporated pre-emergence weed control as well as nitrogen and phosphate fertilizer with the planting. But a few weeds ignored the application and came up anyway. "That's when Herman's pride took over," Ullman stated. "He didn't want a bunch of weeds showing over this beets."

So he had a crew of workers move in to hoe out the weeds. They were paid $11.00 an acre and worked for less than a day on the 11-acre patch.

Ullman pointed to a few tall weeds that showed over the beets, "If the workers had done a little better job you wouldn't be seeing these."

But less than one day's labor on a field of this size is a tremendous advancement toward mechanization when compared with beet farming practices of only a few years ago.

Multi-purpose

Early in the game Strauch used the multi-purpose tractor developed by the GW Grower Service Center at Platteville to go through the field once to apply root maggot control, to lay by, to cultivate, and to shape rows for mechanical thinning, all in one operation.

The multi-purpose tractor is the pride and joy of Carl Luft, manager of the GW Grower Center here, who sees it as a major breakthrough in reducing overhead costs for the farm.
Man and nature
(Continued from page 1)

mer. It can perform four or five functions at one time and dramatically cut back the number of times a farmer must go through his field in a growing season.

The multi-purpose procedure at the Strauch field was followed by electronic thinning.

It was after this that Strauch had the one day workers go after stubbom weeds. Even so, the field represents a big move toward total mechanization Ullman explained, “Most fields still have three or four operations.”

More hand labor

From this point on there was still considerable hand labor but it was solely Strauch’s who saw to it that irrigation water was applied at regular intervals to insure the beets developed as he anticipated. Throughout the summer he added nitrogen and phosphate chemicals to the water.

Luft is particularly pleased with this field as one of several in which area farmers have used GW Center chemicals and programs to improve the net results at beet harvest time. “Our goal is to help area beet farmers keep costs down while increasing the output. In that way they realize more net profit and the whole area benefits.

In all Strauch has 36 acres in beets this year. He doesn’t expect to start harvesting the field in Platteville until late in Oct. by which time, all things staying normal, there’s a good possibility the field will produce enviable tonnage.

No prediction

Herman Strauch himself refuses to make any predictions about the results of his beet harvest. Like most farmers he’s a hard-working perennial optimist. “If it does as well as I hope the other farmers will claim I’m blowing; if it doesn’t do that well they’ll tell me any fool should have known better. So we’ll just wait and see.”

Since Strauch isn’t predicting we will: that barring a freak blow from nature this will be a bumper crop year — not only for Strauch but a lot of deserving area farmers.

We’ll credit —

nature, to whom we rural people still bow with considerable respect;
—scientific research by the GW company;
—availability of economy and efficiency-oriented chemicals and equipment at GW Grower Service Center;

but most of all we’ll credit Herman Strauch whose knowledge of and ability to analyze and utilize best chemicals and practices makes him a worthy representative of the traditional All-American farmer who believes if he works hard enough his efforts will be rewarded.

May 1971 prove to be the year when the farmer’s faith is truth.

Technicians
Try To Divert
Growth To Root
Business Farmer

Chemicals to stop or slow down plant growth are being tested at the Scotts Bluff Station. Frank Anderson, agronomist at the station, thinks they may have a place in sugarbeet production.

Eight different chemicals are being sprayed on sugarbeet foliage, according to Louis Daigger, extension soils specialist. The theory is to retard new leaf development so that carbohydrates being produced by the existing leaves will go into root growth instead of being used to produce new leaf tissue. Hopefully, this will result in more tonnage of beets and no drop or an increase in sugar percentage will result.

Franks thinks his research so far has shown promise of increasing tonnage, but points out that none of the chemicals have been cleared for use by beet producers.

This practice would be of great value to sugarbeet producers. Fall rains and cool weather often reactivate beet leaf growth late in the season. This new growth utilizes stored carbohydrates and sugars in the roots and the end result is a lower sugar content at harvest.
First harvest of the 1971 Great Western Sugar Co. sugar beet crop in northeastern Colorado will get underway Monday, Sept. 27, with factory operations at Fort Morgan, Ovid and Sterling to begin as soon as an adequate supply of beets is on hand.

At the present time, the Fort Morgan factory is scheduled to start slicing on Sept. 28, Ovid on Sept. 30 or Oct. 1 and Sterling on Sept. 29 or Oct. 1, J. V. Ostermiller, northeast district agricultural manager, reported today.

Present indications are that the crop will be above average in tonnage, Ostermiller said, as growing conditions have been good to bring out a better than average crop with the district escaping the late summer hail storms. The district will harvest 27,000 acres of beets, 14,000 in Morgan County and 13,000 in Yuma County.

Following is the delivery schedule in the Fort Morgan district:

Stations to open on Sept. 27 are Sheda, Maudru, Moseley, Lodli, Nelson, Brush, White, Gise, Yuma, Wray, Lambert, Wiggins, McCook and Messex.

Narrows and Hurley growers can deliver beets to Fort Morgan Sheda prior to Oct. 9; Hoyt growers can deliver to Wiggins prior to Oct. 9; Idalia growers can deliver to Wray prior to Oct. 9; Clarkville growers can deliver to Yuma prior to Oct. 9.

Growers delivering beets to Goodrich, Dodd, Snyder and Masters are scheduled to start harvesting Oct. 4. All stations will be open Oct. 9.

The delivery rate through Oct. 9 will be determined by factory slicing operations, Ostermiller said. Fort Morgan factory operations will be under the supervision of Glenn Troudt, factory manager, assisted by James Young, master mechanic.

Announcement of the harvest followed the first rain and snowstorm which covered the entire sugar beet area in eastern Colorado and down into Kansas.

Rain started Thursday afternoon, continued through the night and turned into snow early this morning. The temperature dropped to 31 degrees during the night and read the same at 8 a.m., after a high of 45 degrees yesterday.

Wiggins had received one inch of moisture by 8 a.m. today and Wray also reported one inch. Precipitation recorded on the official gauges of the Great Western showed Fort Morgan .79, Goodrich .72, Brush .76, Gary .50, Snyder .68, Hillrose .72, Idalia .40, Yuma .30, Goodland, Kan. .40.

It was snowing in the New Raymer area and it was mixed snow and rain in the Sterling area but weather conditions were bad enough the Sterling-Cheyenne East football game was postponed to Saturday afternoon.

The moisture, so far, hasn't hurt us," Ostermiller said, "as conditions have been extremely dry during July and August. If it just clears up, then dries off for the next six weeks, the moisture will be beneficial to all.

Chester Pithian, county agent, said farming operations are temporarily halted by the precipitation, but all the crops can very well absorb the moisture.

"The moisture is very beneficial, especially to the ranges and wheatland. Ranges in the state have deteriorated 70 per cent. The moisture can be absorbed and farmers can continue operations as soon as the weather clears," Pithian said. He estimated 60 to 90 per cent of the bean crop was harvested.

Factory To Close If Beets Remain Down

COLORADO CITY, Colo. (AP) —The Great Western Sugar Co. beet factory in Greeley will be closed unless beet acreage in the area increases, the president of the sugar firm's parent company said Thursday.

William M. White Jr. of Great Western United said the high cost of required equipment to meet environmental standards at the facility cannot be borne with current production.

Funds can only be made available for the pollution-control equipment if beet acreage in the Greeley area is increased.

White said.

His comments came in a question-and-answer period during a shareholders meeting here.

White also said during the session that Great Western Foods Co., another Great Western United subsidiary, is for sale.

A sale consummation can be expected in the near future, he said.

During the session, White was re-elected president and chairman of the board of Great Western United over objections of a former Great Western executive.

White and all officers and directors of the firm were re-elected through proxy control at the corporation's fourth annual stockholders meeting here.

Objecting to the elections was N.K. Mendelsohn, former president of Great Western Cities, a subsidiary of the parent firm.

He called upon the 150 shareholders present to shuffle the management.

"There is a growing weakness in top management by one man," Mendelsohn said. "White delegates on paper, but intrudes on day-to-day handling of operations," he said. "He handed me a dish, but no fork, knife or spoon."

"I am scared to death for our future dividends," he added.

White's only response was to tell Mendelsohn, "I have personal sympathy for your recent problems in regard to the recent Ralph Nader report of criticism about California land practices."

Mendelsohn new heads North American Towns Inc., a California land development firm. He is also president of other persons, including Gerald Armstrong, a minority stockholder from Denver, also opposed the re-elections, but no change were made.
Expensive Pollution Control May Close GW Factory Here

By JIM McNABNEY
Tribune Staff Writer

Greeley's Great Western Sugar factory will operate this year, but beyond that time its future appears somewhat bleak.

George Wilber, president of the sugar company, said Friday that the factory would operate this year, repeating a statement he had made to the Tribune earlier this summer.

Expensive Pollution Control

However, William M. White, president of Great Western United Corp., the sugar company parent, indicated at a stockholders' meeting Thursday that there was a possibility the factory would close later, due to high expenses associated with some water pollution control equipment needed at the plant.

The Tribune learned that the factory has operated under a variance arrangement with the state Water Pollution Control Board, and there have been reports that agreement would expire in January. Some indications were also raised that the factory might shut down at that time, but Wilber indicated Friday the factory would operate "for the entire season.

Wilber did not say under what arrangement the factory would operate to complete the slicing of beets next year. He said, however, that some equipment is now being installed at the plant.

Acreage Increase Needed

White indicated during the stockholders meeting in Colorado City that funds would be provided for the needed equipment only if sugar beet acreages increase enough to warrant the expense.

The Greeley sugar factory reported a loss of acreage this year of only about three percent, compared with a loss of about six percent for the north central district as a whole.

Wilber said Friday a report by Denver media on the factory closing was inaccurate. Wilber quoted White as saying there were no plans now to close the sugar factory, or any other factory, but that substantial expenditure was needed at the Greeley factory and that beet acreages were low.

Wilber said that acreages this past year were near the point where it would not be economical to operate five factories.

The factory here would remain open, he said, as long as there were enough beet to support the operation.

May Run $300,000

The needed investment at the plant may run as high as $300,000, Wilber indicated, but said the precise figure was not known.

Wilber said the company was working to hike sugar beet acreages in all of the north central district.

Subsidiary For Sale

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White and all officers and directors of the firm were re-elected through proxy control at the corporation's fourth annual stockholders meeting here.

Objecting to the elections was N.K. Mendelsohn, former president of Great Western Cities, a subsidiary of the parent firm. He called upon the 150 shareholders present to shuffle the management.

"There is a growing weakness in top management by one man," Mendelsohn said. "White delegates on paper, but intrudes on a day-to-day handling of operations," he said. "He handed me a dish, but no fork, knife or spoon."

Worried About Dividends

"I am scared to death for our future dividends," he added.

White's only response was to tell Mendelsohn, "I have personal sympathy for your recent problems in regard to the recent Ralph Nader report of criticism about California land practices."


Several other persons, including Gerald Armstrong, a minority stockholder from Denver, (Continued on page B)

Sugar Factory

(Continued from page 1)

also opposed the re-elections, but no change were made.

Discussion Sidestepped

White sidestepped discussion of 1971 results, which showed a loss of $224 a share after an extraordinary writeoff of more than $10.5 million for new accounting procedures on land sales.

"You all have the annual report," White said. "I don't want to dwell on 1971. . . ."

He called the years before 1965 "prehistoric" and said his takeover of the company had as its purpose to bring more modern management to an old conservative company.

Ready for Growth

"The transformation and professionalism changes are fairly complete," White said. "We are now ready for a period of profitable growth, although I will not predict what we will make in the future."

White told stockholders the company is nearing final negotiations for $66 million in credit from a group of banks headed by Chase Manhattan Bank.

"We have a $70 million credit for the sugar company," he said, "and directors, prior to the meeting approved a plan for issuance of new Great Western United stock in an amount and at a time to be determined at a later date."

White said there would be no preemptive rights for stockholders when the new stock is issued.
Growers Tell It Like It Is In Bean Harvest

By Jim Nunon
Business Farmer Publisher

How is bean harvest going? All things considered, quite well.

In brief that's what The Business Farmer found Tuesday when a swing to the south and east of Scottsbluff found farmers everywhere busy in the fields. Most attention this week, of course, was directed at the bean harvest and the need to get this crop to the elevators. Winds Monday night kicked up to high levels (gusts to 40 miles an hour during a 2 hour period as reported at the National Weather Service at Scottsbluff), enough to alarm producers with beans in the windrow.

Just south of Gering, Vic Ruppel was busy combining beans for his brother, Harold. Harold showed up shortly from another field where he had disced in bean straw.

Asked about yield, this farmer was hopeful his yield would average from 40 to 45 bushels -- it was too early to pin the matter down closer than that. In past years, Ruppel said, his farm used to produce beans in the 50 to 60-bushel range. 

What caused the drop? White Mold.

This year, the mold did pop up in spots. Certainly, it was not as bad as it has been some years. Ruppel plants the 110 variety because of the mold.

A long-time potato grower, the Gering man voiced enthusiasm about what he hopes will develop this year. The crop, at this stage of the game, is far superior to the year when his tubers averaged 700 plus bushels to the acre. A little bit careful, Ruppel was of the opinion that his tonnage in one field could come close to 800 bushels an acre -- if conditions the rest of the season are favorable. This was said, too, on Tuesday, the day the weather station was reporting the possibility of frost in some areas that night.

Further east near McGrew, Marvin Ramig was just finishing harvest of one of his bean fields. He favors GN 55s. Normally, his yield runs from 35 to 40 bushels to the acre. This year, he hoped, the 160 acres he has will average 35 bushels. Ramig was about a third done Tuesday.

But, Ramig added, he was more partial to beet production. His chief concern this year was that unfavorable weather early forced him to replant part of his beet acreage to beans. His beet acreage, as a general rule, runs about 100 acres.

On the north side of the river northwest of Bayard, Jake Schmunk was wielding a pitchfork. The bad development Tuesday was a blown tire on his combine. While this was being repaired, he was straightening windrows which had been rolled -- not too seriously -- by the Monday night wind.

Schmunk figured his 15 acres of beans were averaging about 40 bushels to the acre. Crops on the place were hailed in June and were waterlogged early in the season, but moved along without trouble from that point.

His 30 acres of corn rated "pretty good." As for his 27 acres of beets, Schmunk was not ready to evaluate them although he did indicate the crop has excellent tops.

Dave Henkel, Jr., rolling his combine along trying to wind up harvest of his 91 acres on the county line about 7 miles northwest of Bayard, paused briefly to view. He had been getting up at 3 a.m. until the past three mornings to keep harvest moving. Wind had done no trouble on this farm, for Henkel windrowed his crop right ahead of combining.

At the time The Business Farmer newsman stopped at the Henkel farm, he was within an hour of completing harvest of his bean crop. A neighbor to the south had run into machinery problems, so Henkel was planning to shift to help his friend.

Dave Henkel, Sr., his father, and Wayne, his son, were on hand to take care of chores while Henkel combined. Wayne reported that his father felt beans on this place would be "in between" the early and late crop. Later, Henkel said that the 91 acres would average around 35 bushels. He had expected for 40 bushels, but had suspected he might miss this goal.
OBSERVING DRYLAND grain sorghum production is members of the Sherman County fall farm tour which attracted approximately 30 farmers, ranchers, businessmen and homemakers this past week. They are looking at sorghum being grown on the Raymond Peters farm. The producer said the crop hasn’t received any rain since harvest. He attributed the stand to “good subsoil moisture when the crop was planted.” (Staff Photo).

30 persons take part in tour

By Gale Hubbs
Of The Daily News Staff

Those taking part in the Sherman County fall farm tour this past week viewed corn, sorghum and sugarcane production and looked at what one man described as “the world’s largest combines.”

The first stop was at the Arven Eckhardt farm. Eckhardt explained to the approximately 30 persons on the tour how his green chop program is used to supplement his cattle program.

He told the group that several of the reasons for raising green chop was so he wouldn’t have to buy roughage or worry about running short on feed for his 100 head of livestock. The 12 acres of forage has been cut twice and Eckhardt says “it’s a good way of utilizing feed during the summer and you can feed it as you produce it.”

The forage is being grown on land that has been dining sugarcane for the past two years and has received two waterings this summer.

Dr. Harold Jones, Kansas State University extension specialist, demonstrated to the group how plants take up nitrogen. Using a brown colored solution from his “house-pocus kit,” Jones applied several drops to the plant tissue and a bluish-purple color appeared. Jones stated that this was an indication of nitrogen in the plant tissue. The same technique was demonstrated on sugarbeet leaf stems and on pig weed. They too showed signs of nitrogen in the tissue.

Jones cautioned the farmers, ranchers, businessmen and homemakers that plants should not be showing nitrogen traces in the plant tissue this time of year.

Pre-watered grain sorghum was observed at the Edwin Deeds farm, adjacent to the Eckhardt farm. Deeds told the group he is a “believer in pre-watering.” The land had been planted to beans the past two years and after the seed bed was prepared and planted to sorghum this year, he ditched and watered the crop and also applied 60 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

Jones stated that grain sorghum can be grown successfully with pre-irrigation and then farm the crop just like dry land. The extension specialist told the group that the last two weeks of growth the crop will produce 10 per cent of the total yield.

A farm equipment display was viewed at the Lawrence House, Jr. farm. House, who also does custom combining, had on display two experimental combines manufactured by Massey Ferguson. The combine has five foot cylinders and are equipped with 24-foot headers. House told the group that the machines are in their fifth year of trial operation.

Last year’s dry land wheat field at the Gary Mosbarger farm is now an irrigated sugarcane field. Effective planning and foresight by Mosbarger during the past year has resulted in 71 acres of land being levelled, an irrigation well drilled and the building of a tailwater pit.

Mosbarger planted the beets on May 26, 1971 and they have been bailed on twice. He told the group that approximately one-third of the irrigation water used on the crop during the growing season has been pumped from the tailwater pit. Tailwater pit in irrigation program give the grower more and better use of water.

Don Lindshied, Great Bend, said fields respond better to other crops on land that has just been levelled and irrigated for the first time.

May 26, 1971 was a bad start this spring and there were wet conditions in the past six weeks,” stated Lindshied, in reference to the 1971 beet crop.

Grain sorghum being produced on dry land was observed at the Raymond Peters farm. Peters said the crop has not received any rain since harvest. The sorghum received one cultivation and has been sprayed to control green bugs.

Schwendener is growing 460 acres of irrigated corn this year. He has three irrigation crops this year. He has three irrigation wells and has watered the crop four times during the growing season. He didn’t pay for the water before planting so he required careful management to apply water to the growing sorghum.

Peters attributed the good growth to “good soil moisture when the crop was planted.” He believes the yield will be about 60 bushels per acre. Last year’s yield was 56 bushels per acre.

Lawell Chalfant, county executive director of ASCS, and Lawrence Tedford, SCS district conservationist, explained the construction and use of modified flat channel terraces on the Don Peters farm.

The purpose of the flat channel terrace is to spread and hold what rainfall runoff is received on this Northwest Kansas farm for the growing crops.

Cost sharing on the construction was provided by the Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP).

LAWRENCE TEDFORD, SCS district conservationist, discusses modified flat channel terraces with members of the Sherman County fall farm tour. The terraces were constructed on the Don Peters farm, one of seven stops on the tour to observe production methods and conservation measures in Northwest Kansas. (Staff Photo).
Suits Filed By Migrants

DENVER (AP) — Six migrant worker families filed suit Wednesday in Denver District Court, naming the Great Western Sugar Co., the Great Western Employment Agency and sugar beet farmers who contracted with the company as defendants.

In each case, the migrant families involved, all hired in Texas to work Colorado fields, said they were not allowed to do the amount of work they believed they were going to do when they were recruited.

The families said this year, they expected the same procedure to be followed, but found less work available, even though when they were recruited it was indicated the work would be the same.

Sugar beet crop looks good this year

Great Western agriculturist O. L. "Bud" Oldemeyer has been inspecting fields of sugar beets in his district which are expected to be the best in the company’s history. The field shown above is farmed by Wallace Lebsack southwest of Johnstown. The beets this year are showing good September coloring which indicates timely maturity on the crop. Stands are excellent, Oldemeyer said, and tonnage is estimated to exceed 20 tons per acre. The average in this area is about 16 1/2 tons per acre.

GW agriculturalists predict highest yield in sugar beets for 1971

Great Western Sugar Agriculturalists are predicting the highest yield on record for sugar beets in Longmont during the 1971 season.

Sampling in mid-July and Sept. 1 indicates one of the heaviest samples, along with best stands, to substantiate their predictions. The beet crop was planted in late March and April, and received four inches of moisture at that time, and has not stopped growing since. The area has been reasonably free of hail, disease and insects.

The highest yield ever recorded before was in 1959 of 18.4 tons per acre, and the agricultural people have this crop pegged at 18.6 tons per acre or better.

Samples also indicate that fields are ripening, and a high sugar content may be expected if good growing conditions continue. The weedcides that were applied pre-plant and post emergence worked very well, and very little field labor was required to thin the crop.

The beet growers are to be commended on their management of water for irrigation during the dry months of July and August, keeping the beet crop, along with other crops, in good growing condition.
Ralph Hettinger
promoted

The Great Western Sugar Co. has announced changes in Agricultural Department personnel that are of interest to beet growers and those involved in the beet industry.

Two promotional transfers involved Ralph Hettinger and Jim Gonyou. Mr. Hettinger is the new District Agricultural Manager of the North Central Colorado District and Mr. Gonyou is moving up to District Agricultural Manager of the Northeast Colorado District.

The company also announced that Jerry Reed has been promoted to the new position of Agricultural Administrator for the Billings Factory and Stan Walter will be the Agricultural Administrator at Lovell. Both of these men have been in their respective districts for a number of years and have a wide acquaintance with the growers and the agricultural programs of the area.

Mr. Hettinger is well known in the Hysnam area and his leaving will be felt as a loss. He made an effort to understand the problems and to go to the fields to meet the farmers. Mr. and Mrs.

Beets will roll Tuesday

Listen for the howl of the trucks next Tuesday. It's Beet Harvest Time again.

All dumps in the area will open at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday. Beets hauled into the stations before October 1 will be loaded directly into railroad cars, Jerome Pyette, Agriculturist, says the Burlington Northern has assured him there will be plenty of cars available for the harvest. There will be no limit on the number of tons that can be hauled to the dumps.

To adjust for daylight saving time, stations will open at 7:30 a.m., with each Agriculturist adjusting hours to serve the needs of the greatest number of Growers.

Great Western
announce's appointment

B. M. Swarthout, recently appointed District General Manager of the Great Western Sugar Company's Montana/Wyoming District, has announced the appointment of Lee Butler as District Agricultural Manager, a newly-created position.

Butler spent his early years in Boulder and Loveland, Colorado, and graduated from Colorado State University in 1947. He joined Great Western as an Apprentice Fieldman at Eaton, Colorado, in February of 1946.

Commenting on Butler's appointment, Swarthout said, "Great Western has established a District Agricultural Manager slot in each of its districts, which allows easier and more efficient delegation of authority and responsibility within the Company."

New pulp price

New crop prices effective Monday, Sept. 20 for pelleted beet pulp in the Great Western Sugar Co. Montana-Wyoming district were announced today by Bert M. Swarthout, district general manager.

The price at the Billings plant will be $37.50 per ton, a reduction of $8.50 per ton from the most recently quoted price. This is the opening price and is subject to change, according to market conditions. Swarthout also pointed out that the storage capacity will make supplies available on a year round basis for area conditions.

Meeting on Pollution In Sugar Industry Set

Water pollution control guidelines for the sugar beet industry will be the subject of a meeting Wednesday in Denver called by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Jack Green, regional EPA administrator, said the meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. in room B-230 of the Denver Custom House. C. H. Iverson, Denver, chief engineer for Great Western Sugar Co., will be an industry spokesman on behalf of western and midwest sugar beet officials.
Storms place crops in doubt for harvest here

A heavy, wet snow and rain falling later have placed Weld County crops on the doubtful list this week. A heavy snow fell Friday and caused considerable damage to plant life, as well as telephone and power lines in the area. More damage was done south of Eaton and Ault by the heavy snow. One power line worker said that the heaviest damage to their lines was in the Greeley area, with some outage in this area.

Farmers reported that their telephones were still out of order Tuesday and Wednesday morning, due to the heavy snow.

Much of the damage to lines was caused by falling tree limbs which still carried leaves and accumulated snow. Many trees will necessarily need be trimmed since branches are broken or badly bent out of shape by the heavy moisture.

Driving in some areas was a hazard and numerous small accidents were caused by skidding on the wet snow. No fatal accidents were reported due to this storm.

Sun came out Saturday and Sunday, melting the snow and washing the fields where corn, beans, potatoes, carrots and onions were ready to harvest. Many of the beans had been windrowed ready to go through the threshers when the storm hit. Many farmers feel their beans are lost, and some say the potatoes are lost for certain. The corn, which was ready for the silos took a heavy freeze Friday night and farmers report this kills it for silage. Whether or not the ears may be salvaged as a grain crop remains to be seen.

To pile woes on the farmers' shoulders was a rain moving into the area Monday night and continuing to fall all day Tuesday. The slow rainfall continued to soak crops in the fields and made the harvest seem even more impossible. As of Tuesday the fields were so wet that sugar beets could be pulled with two fingers.

The beet crop is still an asset since it is a late harvest crop and will not be affected by this storm. Harvest of the beets is set to get underway Oct. 4 in this area. Should the fields dry and heavy winter does not move in prior to the first of December, this will be the farmers' best crop for 1971.

Sugar beets in this area appear to be in excellent condition and should produce a crop near the records.

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GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY
RESEARCH LIBRARY

GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY, North Central Colorado District, has announced changes in agricultural field staff assignments for his district. The changes are a part of Great Western's previously announced realignment of field personnel, Dr. Davan said, and are intended to place more authority and responsibility at the field management level.

Describing the realignment, Dr. Davan said, "Ralph Hettinger, as district agricultural manager, has been assigned full responsibility for the total agricultural program in the North Central Colorado District. He will be assisted by Bob Sanborn, assistant district agricultural manager.

"Each factory district will now have an agricultural administrator who is charged with the administrative responsibility for agriculture in his district, as well as line responsibilities."

Announced changes include a promotion to the new position of agricultural administrator at Greeley for Alvin Robertson, former agriculturist.

At the other four factories in the district, men who have been serving in agricultural manager's positions have been named to assume the responsibilities of the agricultural administrator job. They are: John Stewart, Brighton; Frank Zumbroich, Longmont; Lowell Giauque, Loveland; and Don Redman, Eaton.

"Every member of the agricultural field staff under the district agricultural manager will be directly responsible for the creation and implementation of approved programs for his assigned area," Dr. Davan stressed.

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Goodland News
Sugar beet receiving station opens Monday

LaMar Henry, Great Western agriculture manager, reports that receiving stations will open on the following dates for the 1971 sugar beet campaign.

On September 27 the Kemp Factory will be receiving beets produced in the factory, Sharon Springs, Kanorado and Peconic areas.

Rail car loading begins on October 4 at Sharon Springs, Arapahoe, Burlington, Bethune and Stratton, Colo. On October 9 the rail loading of sugar beets begins at Peconic, Kanorado, Menlo and West Burlington.

Henry stated that the slicing will be under way on September 23 at the Kemp Factory -- should the weather cooperate.
Man and nature join productive forces

Le Salle Leader Sept 22, 1971

(ED. NOTE: The following story was written last week before the big summer snow which arrived Thurs., Fri. and Sat. and the cold rains which came in Mon. night. Unless we have too much more of the same inclement weather, the predictions at the close of the story will still apply.)

With beet harvest 1971, tentatively scheduled to blast off Oct. 5 or 6, all systems are go for what looks like the most successful launch in many years.

Field samples taken by Great Western Sugar Company men in the area recently checked "OK" as to weight of beets, per cent sugar.

(Continued on page 5)

Sweet smell of success

There's nothing like the sweet smell of success to bring smiles popping to the surface. And these three happy gents are standing hip deep in what looks like a sure winner.


The guy in the center, Herman Strauch, has cause to be happiest because the sugar beet he's holding is just one from thousands in his field in which the men are standing. All these sugar-laden beets will soon be on their way to market.

The other two men, Great Western Sugar Company personnel, have almost equal cause to be happy. Recent samplings indicate this year's sugar beet crop will be the best in five years.

That's Bill Ullman, on the left, GW Agriculturist from Brighton who calls Strauch's field "one of the better fields in the district."

On the right is Carl Luft, manager of the GW Grower Service Center at Platteville.

See also story.

—LEADER photo
Man and nature
(Continued from page 1)

Purity of beet juice and the stand.
John Stewart, Agricultural Manager of Great Western's Brighton District, said last week, "The most recent sampling shows (beets) are better this year than we have had for any of the previous five years." Managers of adjoining factory districts are reporting similar good news.

What's so different about this year?

Favorable weather
The biggest favorable factor has been agreeable weather. This bonanza from nature coupled with increased scientific agricultural knowledge makes the beet harvest look most promising. Some optimistic company personnel and farmers are betting (unofficially) that 28 to 30 ton yield from some of the better fields. But even when Mother Nature smiles it takes plenty of knowledge, plain hard work and farmer intuition to produce a really special crop of beets—or any other crop for that matter.

"One of the better fields of beets in the Platteville area" is located within the city limits of the town and is being farmed by Herman Strauch. Because the field has looked outstanding all season, and because of its proximity to a population center the field has attracted a lot of attention.

Front row center
(We've probably had more than usual personal interest in the field because it's located right next door and we've had front-row center seats to observe the activity there and to watch the plants sprout up to luxuriant, green maturity.)

Bill Ullman, G. W. Agriculturist for Brighton district, confirmed it's undoubtedly "one of the better fields in the district." He said "timeliness" was one of the most important factors in the field's apparent success.

The field was planted with incorporation of Ro-neet by GW Grower Service Center on March 26. Regularly treated GW beet seed were planted. "Here's where Herman's good farming practices really paid off," explained Ullman. "He had prepared his ground well and had enough moisture to get the beets up."

From there Ma Nature assumed temporary control and supplied just the right amount of rainfall to give the young plants a good start. Strauch didn't have to rev up the pump to start irrigating until about the middle of June.

born weeds. Even so, the field represents a big move toward total mechanization Ullman explained. "Most fields still have three or four operations."

More hand labor
From this point on there was still considerable hand labor but it was solely Strauch's who saw to it that irrigation water was applied at regular intervals to insure the beets developed as he anticipated. Throughout the summer he added nitrogen and phosphate chemicals to the water.

Luft is particularly pleased with this field as one of several in which area farmers have used GW Center chemicals and programs to improve the net results at beet harvest time. "Our goal is to help area beet farmers keep costs down while increasing the output. In that way they realize more net profit and the whole area benefits."

In all Strauch has 36 acres in beets this year. He doesn't expect to start harvesting the field in Platteville until late in Oct. by which time, all things staying normal, there's a good possibility the field will produce enviable tonnage.

No prediction
Herman Strauch himself refuses to make any predictions about the results of his beet harvest. Like most farmers he's a hard-working perennial optimist. "If it does as well as I hope the other farmers will claim I'm blowing; if it doesn't do that well they'll tell me any fool should have known better. So we'll just wait and see."

Since Strauch isn't predicting we will: that barring a freak blow from nature this will be a bumper crop year— not only for Strauch but a lot of deserving area farmers.

We'll credit:—
• nature, to whom rural people still bow with considerable respect;
• (ED. NOTE. At this point, Tues. nature isn't cooperating too well."
—scientific research by the GW company;
• availability of economy and efficiency-oriented chemicals and equipment at GW Grower Service Center,
• but most of all we'll credit Herman Strauch whose knowledge of and ability to analyze and utilize best chemicals and practices makes him a worthy representative of the traditional All-American farmer who believes if he works hard enough his efforts will be rewarded.

May 1971 prove to be the year when the farmer's faith is truth.
Mechanization

In the beginning it was planned to use 100 per cent mechanization on the field, Ullman explained. Strauch had incorporated pre-emergence weed control as well as nitrogen and phosphate fertilizer with the planting. But a few weeds ignored the application and came up anyway. "That's when Herman's pride took over," Ullman stated. "He didn't want a bunch of weeds showing over this beets."

So he had a crew of workers move in to hoe out the weeds. They were paid $11.00 an acre and worked for less than a day on the 11-acre patch Ullman pointed to a few tall weeds that showed over the beets, "If the workers had done a little better job you wouldn't be seeing these."

But less than one day's labor on a field of this size is a tremendous advancement toward mechanization when compared with beet farming practices of only a few years ago.

Multi-purpose

Early in the game Strauch used the multi-purpose tractor developed by the GW Grower Service Center at Platteville to go through the field once to apply root maggot control, to lay by, to cultivate, and to shape rows for mechanical thinning, all in one operation.

The multi-purpose tractor is the pride and joy of Carl Luft, manager of the GW Grower Center here, who sees it as a major breakthrough in reducing overhead costs for the farmer. It can perform four or five functions at one time and dramatically cut back the number of times a farmer must go through his field in a growing season.

The multi-purpose procedure at the Strauch field was followed by electronic thinning.

It was after this that Strauch had the one day workers go after stub-
Frost Hasn’t Hurt As County Crops Far Enough Along

"Most of the crops in Morgan County are far enough along that frost is not of serious concern," Chester Pithian, county agent, said this morning. The moisture is extremely advantageous, he said.

"Our corn is far enough along that most of it will mature and if the frost hits the top of the corn, it will help it to mature a little faster," the county agent said.

There will be some wet corn but it will either be put in silage or will be fed as high moisture corn, he said.

The frost did mean the end to the flowers and gardens. With the sugar beet harvest starting next week, it could even be advantageous with the cold weather hastening the sugar process.

Generally speaking, the farmers have been expecting frost so there is no real concern by the farmers as they are moving to the end of their season. It will be a good average overall crop, Pithian said.

Norm Davis, agricultural administrator of the Great Western Sugar Co., said he didn't think the cold weather has hurt the sugar beet crop any with 24 degrees probably the low so far.

"We think we can stand around 20 degrees without stopping the growth of the beets but under that, the sugar is set and that is the end of the sugar production for the year.

"Ordinarily, the sugar percentage will increase right along until the 25th of October, then level out but a hard freeze stops it," Davis said. He indicated he was more concerned about the approaching storm which is expected early this week.

Friday and Saturday nights the low was 32 degrees but last night it dipped to 24 degrees. The temperature did climb to 62 degrees for a high on Sunday.

All of the sugar beet area of the Fort Morgan District received more than one inch of moisture during the storm which came to a halt finally Saturday afternoon after starting on Thursday.

Following are the precipitation figures reported by the official stations of the Great Western:

Fort Morgan 1.86, Goodrich 1.59, Brush 2.02, Gary 1.30, Wiggins 1.84, Snyder 1.52, Hillrose 1.42, Idalia 1.40, Yuma 1.10, Wray 1.69.
Beet growers unit seeks to purchase GW Sugar Co.

7-state beet growers unit organized

GW Sugar purchase sought

By MORTON L. MARGOLIN
Rocky Mountain News Business Editor

The organization of a seven-state sugar beet growers cooperative with the idea of buying Great Western Sugar, the largest beet sugar producer in the nation, from Great Western United Corp., was announced in Denver Monday.

Rumored for several weeks, the move by the growers to buy and operate the sugar producer comes on the heels of a major management shakeup by Great Western Sugar.

The new group, incorporated as Great Western Producers Cooperative, announced it had chosen Robert R. Owen as president. Owen was president of Great Western Sugar until his removal last June. Robert Y. Sakata, a beet grower who farms near Brighton, was elected chairman of the board of directors of the new cooperative, which was incorporated Sept. 15. Sakata is president of the National Beet Growers Federation and a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Growers Marketing Association of Colorado and Kansas.

Impressive credentials

The credentials of other members of the group are just as impressive.

Sakata stressed the grower group has concrete plans to purchase Great Western Sugar. He said the 66-year-old firm would be operated as a subsidiary of the cooperative under the direction of Owen. Sakata said the sugar beet cooperative would provide one means for the grower to control the destiny of his crop from farm to market. He said it also would create confidence needed for a sound sugar industry.

Last week at the annual shareholders meeting of Great Western United, the dwindling confidence of the beet growers in the new management of the company was a major issue.

William M. White Jr., chairman and president of Great Western United, responded that he was concerned, too, and announced the formation of a booster club, the $100 million club, to help restore confidence in the agricultural production of northern and eastern Colorado.

Said Sakata Monday, "I'm sure Mr. White as a businessman is honorable enough to recognize that we want to own the company—to recognize that it properly belongs in the hands of the growers."

Owen confirmed there have been no firm and binding contracts, but added:

"Bill White has been distressed with the earnings level of the sugar company. If he can get out and into something that will make him more money, I have a high degree of confidence that he will talk to us."

Owen explained the cooperative was still in the formative stage. He estimated the fixed assets of the sugar company are worth $60 million, but added the buying price might be in the $100 million range depending on other factors and the time of the year the deal is made.

White was out of the city and not available for comment, but Bob Everett, who was named president of the sugar company after Owen's departure, commented:

"At this point in time the company is not for sale. We have not received an offer. But if we received a proposal, especially from that group of growers who are really our partners, we'd have to give it due consideration."

Said Sakata:

'Once in a lifetime'

"This is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower. And it may well open up a new era in the sugar beet business, bringing together those people with the most exacting experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory."

Under the purchase plans, individual growers would participate in the financing by investing $1 for each ton of beets they deliver during the harvest this fall. In the case of a crop-sharing land-owner and farm operator, their tenancy investment would be prorated according to their sharing agreement.

There are about 6,000 growers in the seven states served by Great Western Sugar—Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Ohio and Michigan. With about six million tons of beets to be harvested this fall, their initial investment in the cooperative would be about $6 million. The grower members would also pay a membership fee of $2.

The grower outlay for the purchase of Great Western Sugar would be backed by additional outside financing. Sakata said the cooperative has been assured by financial consultants that adequate funds can be arranged. These arrangements are now under way, he added.

Along with Great Western Sugar, the purchase would include the firm's two principal subsidiaries—the Northern Ohio Sugar Co., with beet acreage and sugar factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, plus other acreage at Blissfield, Mich.; and the Great Western Railway Co., a short-line freight road serving sugar factories in northern Colorado.

In addition to Sakata and Owen, two other officers from the new cooperative were elected by the board of directors at the organization meeting. They are Harry Weber, a beet grower from the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Association, and Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, who became secretary and general counsel. Weber is president of the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Association.

50 beet growers

Daniel Innsman was assistant secretary and assistant director of legal affairs at the Denver office of Great Western Sugar.

The organization meeting was attended by more than 50 beet growers who are either officers or directors of grower associations in the seven states. The grower cooperative named 16 members of the board of directors, including Sakata and Weber. They included six other presidents of grower associations: Parlan Seaworth of Wellington, Colo., who heads the Colorado-Kansas group; Howard H. St. A., Powell, Wyo., who heads the Big Horn growers; Tseman of Great Falls, Mont.; Harry V. Foote of Lovell, Wyo., who heads the Black Hills group.

The eight other directors are either officers or directors of their local grower associations. They are:


Great Western Sugar operates 19 factories in six states—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, two in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana, and two in Ohio. Its market area consists of mid-continent tiers of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes. Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.
TO: All Denver General Office Personnel

FROM: George E. Wilber, Jr.

The Company has known for several weeks that a group of sugarbeet growers was organizing an effort to purchase The Great Western Sugar Company. We have not been officially contacted by the group at this time, but we were sent a copy of a news release September 20, 1971, on the organization. While we are not making efforts to sell the Company, the beet growers are our partners and any proposals they make will receive our due consideration.
Beet Growers’ Co-op Seeking to Buy Sugar Firm

By JACK PHINNEY

A newly formed association of sugar beet growers said Tuesday it will attempt to purchase Great Western Sugar Co. from Great Western United Corp., the parent firm.

The growers’ association, called the Great Western Producers Cooperative, has as its president Robert R. Owen, who was deposed as head of Great Western Sugar Co. several months ago.

Sugar beet growers in seven states are represented by the association. Chairman is Robert Y. Sakata, a beet grower in the Brighton area and president of the National Beet Growers Federation.

Sakata said his group has “concrete plans” for purchase of the sugar company. “This is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower,” Sakata said. “It may well open up a new ear in the sugar beet business.”

Robert Everett, executive vice president of Great Western United, said the company would be willing to evaluate any offer the growers’ group might make. No offer has been made yet, he added.

Vice chairman of the Great Western Producers Cooperative is Harry Weber, a farmer in the Mitchell, Neb., area. He told The Denver Post Tuesday that the cooperative has assurances of outside financing for the proposed purchase.

Weber said the acquisition plan calls for an investment by growers amounting to $1 per ton of beets delivered during the fall’s harvest. Thus, with about 6 million tons of beets to be harvested this fall, he said the initial investment would be about $6 million.

Weber is president of the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Association. Secretary and general counsel of the new cooperative is Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, former assistant director of legal affairs at the Denver headquarters of Great Western Sugar Co.

The company operates 19 factories in six states—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, two in Ohio and one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana. Sales in the last fiscal year totaled more than $173 million.
Growers Seek To Buy GW Sugar Factories

By JIM McNABNEY
Tribune Staff Writer

Sugar beet growers have formed a cooperative to purchase and operate the Great Western Sugar Company, it was announced Tuesday.

Growers in seven states are involved in the cooperative.

The sugar company is part of the Great Western United Corp., which is headed by William M. White, president and chairman of the board of GWU.

The new cooperative will be called the Great Western Producers Cooperative.

The move to purchase the sugar firm, which is valued at about $80 million, has been underway for about three months, according to Lee Johnson, secretary of the Mountain States Beet Growers Association, but Johnson said Tuesday most of the work has been done in the last three weeks.

Great Western Sugar operates 19 factories in six states — 10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana, and two in Ohio. The company's market area consists of the mid-continent tier of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes. Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.

The announcement of the cooperative organization follows on the heels of a stormy GWU stockholders meeting. In that meeting several stockholders charged that the recently reorganized sugar company management lacks experience in sugar beet production.

The sugar company management was recently reorganized in a series of moves which brought irate reactions from best growers and prompted meetings between growers and White and other company heads.

During the stockholders meeting, White, the majority stockholder in GWU and the rest of the present management remained at their posts, despite rumors of an overthrow attempt by some stockholders.

Robert R. Owen, former sugar company president, will be presiding officer of the new cooperative, according to an announcement by Bob Sakata who was elected chairman of the board of the cooperative.

Sakata is president of the National Beet Growers Federation and a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Growers Assn.

Other members of the cooperative management are also growers with wide experience and most are also directors or officers of beet growers groups.

Sakata stressed that the grower group has concrete plans to purchase the sugar company. He said the 55-year-old firm would be operated as a subsidiary of the cooperative under the direction of Owen.

Sakata said the sugar beet cooperative would provide one means for the grower to control the destiny of his crop from farm to market place. It would also create, he said, the confidence needed for a sound sugar industry.

"This is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower," Sakata added. "And it will turn up a new era in the sugar beet business, bringing together those people with the most exacting experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory."

At the shareholders meeting, Owen said the formation of a booster club for sugar beets called the "$100 Million Club," which he said would help restore confidence in the agricultural production of northeast Colorado.

Apparently the growers didn't feel the company efforts were adequate.

Sakata was quoted as saying, "I'm sure Mr. White as a businessman is honorable enough to recognize that we want to own the company — to recognize that it properly belongs in the hands of the growers."

No firm and binding contract has yet been drawn up, but Owen said, "Bill White has been distressed with the earnings level of the sugar company. If he can get out and into something that will make him more money, I have a high degree of confidence that he will talk to us."

The cooperative is still in the formative stage, Owen said. The buying price might be in the neighborhood of $100 million, he added, although the value of the company is pegged at around $80 million.

A Great Western official, responding to the announcement in White's absence, said, "At this point in time the company is not for sale. We have not received an offer. But if we received a proposal, especially from that group of growers who are really our partners, we'd have to give it due consideration."

$1 a Ton Investment

Under the purchase plans, individual growers would participate in the financing by investing $1 for each ton of beets they deliver during the harvest this fall.

Johnson said the $1-per-ton investment would be a retur-
Growers Seek

(Continued from page 1)

able investment for the first year only, adding that if the company were not purchased, the investment would be returned to the growers.

Johnson added, "While the investment would be a hardship for many growers, coming as it does on the heels of a terrible year and a not so good year, the investment will still be less than what a farmer might spend for a tractor. If we don't buy the company now it will be too late," Johnson added, expressing optimism that the growers' plans would be carried out.

There are about 6,000 growers in the GW area. With about six million tons of beets to be harvested, the initial investment by growers would be about $6 million. Grower members would also pay a $5 membership fee.

Johnson said a contract will be presented "As soon as we have our house in order, and are assured that growers embrace the concept and will make the needed sacrifice." He estimated it could be 60 days before negotiations take place.

Outside Finances

The growers' outlay for the company's purchase would be backed by other outside financing, and Sakata said he has been assured that adequate funds can be arranged. These arrangements are now underway, he said.

Along with GW sugar, the purchase would include the firm's two principal subsidiaries— the Northern Ohio Sugar Company and the Great Western Railway Co. The Ohio company has factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, plus acreage at Blissfield, Mich. The railway company serves sugar factories in this area.

In addition to Sakata and Owen, two other officers of the new co-operative were elected by the board of directors at the organization meeting. They are Harry Weber, a beet grower who farms near Mitchell, Neb., who became vice chairman of the board, and Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, who became secretary and general counsel. Weber is president of the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Assoc., and Daniel was formerly assistant secretary and assistant director of legal affairs at the Denver office of GW Sugar.

16 Directors

The organization meeting was attended by more than 50 beet growers who are either officers or directors of grower associations in the seven states. The grower co-operative named 16 members to the board of directors, including Sakata and Weber. They include six other presidents of grower associations:

Harlan Seaworth of Wallington, who heads the Colorado-Kansas group; Howard Hart of Powell, Wyo., head of the Big Horn growers; Ishmael (Babe) Yost of Billings, Mont., head of the Montana group; Wayne E. Young of Lexington, Neb., head of the Central Nebraska group; Robert Rimelspach of the Fremont growers in Ohio, and Larry Schaller of Waterville, Ohio, who heads the Blissfield group.

The eight other directors are either officers or directors of their local grower associations. They are:

Announcement that a growers' cooperative would attempt to buy the Great Western Sugar Co. can probably be considered surprising only from the standpoint that the growers were prepared to take such a giant stride to overcome the discontent which they have expressed with the operation of the company.

For at least the last two years, it has been apparent that many growers have not been satisfied with the way Great Western Sugar has been handled under the parent firm, Great Western United Corp. Much of the dissatisfaction stems from lack of grower confidence in the top management.

The sugar company organization still contains, especially in the field, many men knowledgeable and experienced in the sugar industry — men whom the cooperative would surely want to retain if it succeeded in buying the company.

The top echelon no doubt represents men of considerable ability in business and management. But growers have not been convinced of their knowledge and experience in the sugar beet industry and, hence, of their ability to recognize and help solve the problems confronting growers.

Growers were upset by the management reorganization which led to the removal of Robert R. Owen as president of GW. Owen has been named presiding officer of the grower cooperative which would buy GW. At the recent stockholders' meeting, several stockholders contended that the top management lacks experience in sugar beet production.

The cooperative's attempt to buy the company indicates that many growers were not convinced of the future effectiveness of the modern management which William M. White, president of GWU, said his take over was intended to bring to "an old conservative company." Nor of the "professionalism changes," which White said were fairly complete.

Overall, the picture has not been a rosy one. For along with grower dis-
New Cooperative Formed

Growers eye purchase of Great Western Sugar

An announcement was made in Denver, Monday, of the organization of a 7-state sugar beet growers cooperative with the idea of buying Great Western Sugar, the largest beet sugar producer in the nation, from Great Western United Corp.

The possible purchase has been in the rumor-mill for several weeks. The move by the growers to buy and operate the sugar producer comes on the heels of a major management shakeup by Great Western Sugar.

The new group, incorporated as Great Western Producers Cooperative, announced it had chosen Robert R. Owen as president. Owen was president of Great Western Sugar until his removal this past June.

Denver newspapers report that Robert Y. Sakata, a beet grower who farms near Brighton, Colo., was elected chairman of the board of directors of the new cooperative, which was incorporated Sept. 15. Sakata is president of the National Beet Growers Federation and a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Growers Marketing Association of Colorado and Kansas.

Sakata is quoted as saying the grower group has concrete plans to purchase Great Western Sugar. He said the 66-year-old firm would be operated as a subsidiary of the cooperative under the direction of Owen. He said the sugar beet cooperative would provide one means for the grower to control the destiny of his crop from farm to market. Sakata said it also would create confidence needed for a sound sugar industry.

The Rocky Mountain News reports that last week at the annual shareholders meeting of Great Western United, the dwindling confidence of the beet growers in the new management of the company was a major issue.

William M. White, Jr., chairman and president of Great Western United, responded that he was concerned, too, and announced the formation of a booster club, the $100 million club, to help restore confidence in the agricultural production of northern and eastern Colorado.

Sakata told The Rocky Mountain News, Monday: "I'm sure Mr. White as a businessman is honorable enough to recognize that we want to own the company -- to recognize that it properly belongs in the hands of the growers."

Owen confirmed that there have been no firm and binding contracts, but did add: "Bill White has been distressed with the earnings level of the sugar company. If he can get out and into something that will make him more money, I have a high degree of confidence that he will talk to us."

Owen explained that the cooperative was still in the formative stage. He estimated the fixed assets of the sugar company are worth $60 million but added the buying price might be in the $100 million range depending on other factors and the time of the year the deal is made.

While reportedly out of Denver and not available for comment, Bob Everett, who was named president of the sugar company after Owen's departure several months ago, commented: "At this point in time the company is not for sale. We have not received an offer. But if we received a proposal, especially from that group of growers who are really our partners, we'd have to give it due consideration."

Sakata said this is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower. And it may well open up a new era in the sugar beet business, he said, bringing together those people with the most exacting experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory.
Under the purchase plans, as reported in The Rocky Mountain News, individual growers would participate in the financing by investing $1 for each ton of beets they deliver during the harvest this fall. In the case of a crop-sharing landowner and farm operator, their tonnage investment would be prorated according to their sharing agreement.

There are about 6,000 growers in the seven states served by Great Western Sugar. The states are Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Ohio and Michigan. With about six million tons of beets to be harvested this fall, their initial investment in the cooperative would be about $6 million. The grower members would also pay a membership fee of $5.

The grower outlay for the purchase of Great Western Sugar would be backed by additional outside finances. Sakata said the cooperative has been assured by financial consultants that adequate funds can be arranged. These arrangements are now under way, Sakata said.

Along with Great Western Sugar, the purchase would also include the firm's two principal subsidiaries -- the Northern Ohio Sugar Co., with beet acreage and sugar factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, plus other acreage at Blissfield, Mich., and the Great Western Railway Co., a short-line freight road serving sugar factories in northern Colorado.

In addition to Sakata, two other officers of the new cooperative elected by the board of directors at the organization meeting are Harry Weber, beet grower who farms near Mitchell, Neb., who became vice chairman of the board and Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, who became secretary and general counsel.

The new grower cooperative named 16 members to the board of directors, including William A. Davis of Goodland.

Great Western Sugar operates 19 factories in six states -- 10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, one in Kansas (at Goodland), one in Wyoming, one in Montana, and two in Ohio. Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.
Beet Cooperative Formed

DENVER (AP) — Beet growers formed a cooperative here Monday and announced intentions to acquire and operate Great Western Sugar Co., the nation’s largest beet sugar producer.

Robert Y. Sakata of nearby Brighton, elected chairman of the new Great Western Producers Cooperative, said the 50 growers who attended Monday’s meeting authorized a study of possible means to finance the acquisition.

Part of the financing would come from growers investing $1 for every ton of beets harvested this fall, Sakata said. This, he said, would be about $6 million. Outside financing would also be arranged, Sakata said.

Fixed assets of Great Western Sugar were estimated at $60 million by Robert R. Owen, a former Great Western president whom directors of the cooperative named as their president.

Owen said the purchase price could range as high as $100 million depending on variables.

When asked about the new cooperative, Bob Everett, current president of Great Western Sugar, said he had received no offer.

“At this point in time, the company is not for sale,” Everett said. “But if we receive a proposal, especially from that group of growers who are really our partners, we’d have to give it consideration.”

Great Western operates 19 factories—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, two in Ohio and one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana. Its market area consists of the mid-continent tier of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes.

Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.

Officials of the cooperative said the purchase would include two Great Western Sugar subsidiaries:

—Northern Ohio Sugar Co., with beet acreage and sugar factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, and acreage at Blissfield, Mich.

—Great Western Railway Co., a short freight line serving northern Colorado sugar factories.

Sakata pointed out there are 6,000 beet growers in the states served by Great Western—Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio and Michigan. He said financial consultants had assured the cooperative that adequate funds could be arranged for the acquisition.

William M. White Jr., president and chairman of Great Western United, was unavailable for comment. GWU is the parent firm of Great Western Sugar.

Rumors about a cooperative being planned to buy Great Western Sugar have been circulating since a management shakeup at the sugar company. It was in June that Owen stepped down as president and was replaced by Everett.

Owen said after the cooperative meeting Monday: “Bill White has been distressed with the earnings level of the sugar company. If he can get out and into something that will make him more money, I have a high degree of confidence he will talk to us.”

Sakata, president of the National Beet Growers Federation, hailed the cooperative’s plan as opening “a new era in the sugar beet business, bringing together those people with the most experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory.”

Holly Pays Lukens Steel $725,000 in Settlement

COATESVILLE, Pa. — Settlement of a suit by Lukens Steel Co. of Coatesville, Pa., against William D. Pawley, Miami businessman, and the Holly Sugar Corp. of Colorado Springs has resulted in Lukens receiving $725,000 from Holly Corp. for Lukens’ 20 per cent stock interest in the Talisman Sugar Corp. of Miami, Fla., Lukens said Tuesday.

Charles L. Huston Jr., Lukens board chairman, said the settlement results in a non-recurring loss and that the net after-tax effect on earnings is being determined. He said the stock carried a book value of $1,250,000 at the time of settlement.

The suit was filed by Lukens in June of 1968 in Federal District Court in Miami.
Want to buy out G. W. Sugar Co.

A news release reported Tuesday afternoon by a new organization was generally "well received" in the beet farming area of Great Western Sugar Company.

The release was sent to most news media, including weeklies by Robert Y. Sakata (Sahkwātah), a beet grower who farms near Brighton.

The release states:
Organization with objective of purchasing The Great Western Sugar Company was announced in Denver today by a new sugar beet growers cooperative with representation in all seven states where the firm contracts with growers.

GW Sugar, largest producer in the nation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Great Western United Corporation in Denver.

The surprise move was disclosed by Sakata who was elected chairman of the board of directors of the new Great Western Co-operative upon its incorporation in Denver on Sept. 15. He is president of the National Beet Growers Federation and a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Growers Marketing Association of Colorado and Kansas.

Sakata stressed that the grower group has concrete plans to purchase GW Sugar. He said the 65-year-old firm would be operated as a subsidiary of the cooperative under the direction of Robert R. Owen, who was elected president of the new grower group. Owen was president of GW Sugar until his removal last June.

Sakata said the sugar beet cooperative would provide a means for the grower to control the destiny of his crop from farm to market place. It would also create, he said, the confidence needed for a sound sugar industry. Sakata added:
"This is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower. And it may well open up a new era in the sugarbeet business, bringing together those people with the most exacting experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory."

Under the purchase plans, individual growers would participate in the financing by investing $1 for each ton of beets they deliver during the harvest this fall. In the case of a crop-sharing land-owner and farm operator, their tonnage investment would be prorated according to their sharing agreement.

There are about 6,000 growers in the seven states served by GW Sugar— Colorado, Kansas,
(Continued on Page Three)
Want to buy out GW

(Continued from Page One)
Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Ohio and Michigan. With about six million tons of beets to be harvested this fall, their initial investment in the cooperative would be about $6 million. The grower members would also pay a membership fee of $5.

The grower outlay for the purchase of GW Sugar would be backed up by additional outside financing. Sakata said the cooperative has been assured by financial consultants that adequate funds can be arranged. These arrangements are now underway, he added.

Along with GW Sugar, the purchase would include the firm’s two principal subsidiaries—the Northern Ohio Sugar Company, with beet acreage and sugar factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, plus other acreage at Blissfield, Mich.; and the Great Western Railway Company, a shortline freight road serving sugar factories in northern Colorado.

In addition to Sakata and Owen, two other officers of the new cooperative were elected by the board of directors at the organization meeting. They are Harry Weber, Mitchell, Nebr.; and Jerry C. Daniel, Littleton, Colorado.

The organization meeting was attended by more than 50 growers who are either officers or directors of grower associations in the seven states. They named 16 members to the board of directors, including Sakata and Weber. They include six other presidents of growers associations.

Harlan Seaworth, Wellington; Howard Hart, Powell, Wyoming; Ishmael (Babe) Yost, Billings, Mont; Wayne E. Young, Lexington, Nebr.; Robert Rimespach, Fremont, Ohio; and Larry Schaller, Waterville, Ohio.

The other eight directors are: John Mitzen, Kennesburg; William A. Davis, Goodland, Kan.; Kenneth B. Carpenter, Lyman, Neb.; L. D. Towater, Scottsbluff, Neb.; Gene Smith, Imperial, Neb.; Victor Winterholler, Lovell, Wyo.; Joe Alles, Billings, Mont.; and Harold Betson, Findlay, Ohio.

GW Sugar operates 13 factories in six states—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana, and two in Ohio. Its market area consists of the mid-continent tier of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes. Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.
Great Western United Corp. and its Chairman of the Board and President William M. White Jr. are embroiled in battle and the next shots will be fired at the firm's annual meeting scheduled for Sept. 16 in Colorado City.

An attempt to oust White because of the corporation's poor financial performance and recent personnel shifts will be initiated by N.K. Mendelsohn, a dissident stockholder and former GWU executive.

White himself, denying he feels the heat of battle, is pledging a "calm, cool, collected" annual meeting and asserts he is not worried about reports of trouble circulating concerning GWU.

The dissension, previously circulating as "street reports," surfaced this week when White, Mendelsohn, former president of California Cities, and other former employees of GWU talked to Cerui's Journal.

Mendelsohn, who says he "left" Great Western Cities in April, 1970, and who White says he fired at that time, has pledged to start an "oustic White" move after the annual meeting.

"The real problem of management at Great Western United Corp. comes to one man," Mendelsohn said, "William White. When you have a little Caesar, an ego-centric person like Bill White, you're in trouble."

White's reaction to Mendelsohn and what is happening at Great Western United is that the trouble is being stirred up by a small group of individuals following some necessary shifting and realignment at the corporation.

"It is clear to me," White said, "that at least two of them--and maybe they have a few friends--are aggravating this situation. It is of no concern to me. We're well positioned to continue to progress and that is what is important."
From Page 1

Regarding the personal fight that is scheduled between White and Mendelson, it is not clear whether the number of internal changes are taking place at Great Western and its various subsidiaries.

The net income of G.W. for the quarter dropped to $4.7 million from $7.7 million a year ago on a 1.6 percent rise in sales to $251.4 million. Profit decreases are attributed to accounting procedures and changes in the Great Western City subsidiary.

In addition, the current marketing of the stock is fluctuating from 27-28, down from the 1969 high of 30. This transpires in what has been termed a "disaster year" for manufacturing companies.

Great Western United, however, was forced to admit receipt of a "write-down" from its largest creditor to declare dividends for the 1972 fiscal year. This declaration must be sought before an earnings picture falls below a certain point. At least 11 executive names are listed in the 1971 annual report that appeared in the 1970 report. The changes come from a subsidiary to another.

These separate entities make up G.W.U. and all have been paid at various times to be in financial difficulties.

The three are: Great Western City, Shaker's City and Shaker's Pizza Parsons Co. Laredo. The one that has caused the most concern is Great Western City, White acquired G.W.C. in 1969 from its founder, Mendelson.

Mendelson stayed with the firm for about a year when recently corporate headquarters were moved to White's Department, to 5890 White, by

Several executives have left since that time.

Great Western Cities consists of Denver City, Colorado City, and Shaker's City in New Mexico. Laredo's results of sale are purchased, sub-divided, and re-sold through our retail stores.

White was called on the carpet by the bankers at the Bank of Montreal, at its corporate headquarters.

"White has little contact with any Colorado regulatory agencies on property there."

So far, our attorneys and management have been in constant communication with the California State Commission and the California Attorney General's office to bring the company's operations to an ethical standard that would be acceptable to regulators.

"We spent substantial amounts of money and enormous amounts of time in trying to assure customers they would get more value," said White. We're confident now we've reached a stage where we can view Great Western City's future with a good degree of pride.

"But, getting there has been hard work.

"We had two categories of management, one in the West and one in the East in the recent turmoil. "Good men, determined not to lose to some other company who were with Mendelson who met the standards one way or another."

Mendelson, in turn, is a little hurt by White's charges (that he says he has heard and read) concerning previous Cities prece

"If Mr. White means today that I have not been quoted as saying, "Mendelson said, "that today he believes there were had problems with regulatory agencies at the time of the merger, that he was being to stockholders.

"It's a bold lie. The interesting point is if Mr. White knows today why didn't he say it at the time of the merger? I'm going to him for the answer not telling the truth.

"Cera's Journal has learned that Richard L. Mabey was transferred from Shaker's to Shaker's City to "clean up" the operation after White met with the heads of the real estate commission here.

White was told that Great Western City must stop "armstronging" salesmen into buying land as a condition of employment and the sales force. Evidence of this "clean-up" operation is to be seen by the Colorado City to attract lesions.

As at first said salesmen could make $50,000 a year "part-time," now they make $60,000 a year "full-time.

"A change in accounting procedures in Great Western Cities which said to account for the income now, has land sale agreements as income on receipt of 20 percent of the sales price instead of five percent as was previously done.

Mendelson says, "White has practiced and neglected a great company... Great Western Cit in a shambles.

"The leadership has left or been removed," Mendelson says, "permanently. It was the end of the new method of accounting only hides the fact of a bad sales performance."

Mendelson indicates he feels Great Western Cities is in bad financial trouble.

"The company has paid for their symptoms meeting to management... The "principal problems were all resolved when I left," Gooo is quoted as saying, "we had some changes to make in the way we were doing things."" Gooe said that anything that "unethical" was going on in California.

"I don't think that the new Accounting procedures instituted by White were not a "more cooperative way of reporting income."

"The principal problem with a land company like that is always cash flow," Gooe said. "We can't afford to lose money. Great White are re-financing from the Chase Manhattan Bank.

White also maintains that there is no financial difficulty at Great Western Cities. "We had an accounting charge last October," he said. "That was a voluntary action by management. It amounted to an extra charge to earnings."

"The recent good showing is not benefitting Great United Corp. We are Great Western Sugar Co., with its recent policy and management shifts.

In July, Robert R. Owen, formerly president of G.W.S., left both that company and his position with the parent corpora

Owen is still living in Everett, Colorado, and is collecting a salary from Great White. If Owen himself would make no comment on the company or its alleged problems.

White, however, said, "Robert Owen and I have always been good friends and will remain good friends. He and I differ on the necessity and desirability of modernizing Great Western Sugar and its quality."

It was a question of institutional changes. "Owen was praised to the skies by Bill White," said White. The current president of Great Western Sugar is a man who knows the chances of sugar for the future.

Current president is George E. Wilber Jr., who came out of Great Western City to manage the sugar company. White said he has "now the good fortune to have the Great Western Sugar performance consistently on our side.

The third faction in this dispute is the sugar beet growers who have an interest in keeping the "wait and see" attitude about the new management.

Sources close to the growers, however, say they are very unhappy with the current management and action concerning Owen. The growers say they are determined that he needed a greater cash flow from Great Western Sugar to make up for the deficit being caused in cash flow by Great Western Cities.

"If the growers put pressure on Owen, he will get a real good average on sugar you sometimes don't sell well. The pressure on Owen to sell more sugar and to get a better cash flow.

"The growers are being paid on a basis that the best average price is good for the growers. Owen know this and that is what he needs the growers.

In addition, said, Owen was not overjoyed with the new management, but was not getting as much. "It's a false economy as far as we're concerned.

"The company is basically sound," said White. "It's in United's in serious trouble. and can't milk enough out of the sugar division to help those others. I hear they have serious problems with their loans and hospitals."

We're very nervous about our future, said Owen, and we don't know if the guy paying us is sound.

I submitted, that most of his reports had come from people who were inside and outside the company.

This, and possibly more, will have one thing in common, all expectations scheduled later this week.

"Desert street" said that G.W. is in "great condition" and "can't pay dividends" that have been closing in the last few years. Mendelson admits that the firm will not collapse soon.

Unless the management of G.W.U can be changed in the next two years a fine group of companies will find themselves in one company which is in danger of going down the drain.

I think a growing loss of confidence in financial stability and the future over-personalization can be seen. If ever there was a need for one man's leadership it is this one.

Mendelson concedes that he will not have the voting strength this month to get Owen fired. "I have to have to be realistic," he said, "he has a lot of friends here."

Mendelson and his associates have 600,000 shares of common stock, or 60,000 votes.

White has 1.1 percent of the stock on Page 6
One Of Biggest Sugar Beet Campaigns In History Near

THE PHILOSOPHY of the Great Western Sugar Co.'s top officials so far as an industry's operation and its relation to the community in which it functions is concerned was spelled out in a definite manner when the GW president and other administrative leaders gathered here.

The event was a dinner to which all executives and managers of the Northern Ohio Sugar Co. and officials of the Beet Growers' associations in the area were invited.

The need for close cooperation between the company and its sugar beet suppliers was stressed.

George E. Wilber, GW president, and Jack B. Powell, general manager of all northeastern operations for Great Western, emphasized that the Northern Ohio Sugar Co. has as its goal the continued growth and production of high quality sugar while at the same time "maintaining and improving its position as a business citizen of the community and region."

Everything Ready

All operations here were declared fit and ready to receive and process an expected bumper crop of sugar beets.

The purpose of the visit of Mr. Wilber and his colleagues was to observe the condition of readiness of all company facilities to handle what may be the largest sugar beet crop in recent years.

The GW visitors also toured the site of the flood control project, Northern Ohio Sugar being one of the key factors in the federal government's decision to construct a flood wall.

Seek Clean Air, Water

In addition, the group paid special attention to recently added air and water pollution abatement controls that have been installed in factory facilities here and in Findlay. They expressed satisfaction that all measures have now been taken to meet the required standards of the area for clean air and water.

Glenn Maddy, county extension agent, who was a guest at the dinner event, spoke briefly, voicing his admiration for "the strong interest the Northern Ohio Sugar Co. has taken in cooperating and supporting the sugar beet growers of the region."

In addition to the company people, Robert Rimelispach, Ralph Gillmor and Robert Wright of the Sandusky County Beet Growers' association were present.

The youthful Mr. Wilber, who is only 38, was named president of Great Western when the former president, Robert R. Owen, was promoted to a senior executive post in the parent organization, Great Western United.

IT'S UNUSUAL that the president of Great Western Sugar Co. should be named George Wilber, and it's still more unusual that he is only 38. The chief officer of the big industry sees his initials GW on every factory in the big Great Western Sugar complex. Mr. Wilber, at the right in this picture, is shown with Bill Phillips, a senior vice president, during the tour of the Ohio facilities of the GW company, including Fremont's Northern Ohio Sugar Co.

SUGAR INDUSTRY LEADERS: These three officials of the Great Western Sugar Co. were among those who visited the Fremont area, taking a close look at all facilities of the industry's Northern Ohio Sugar Co. plant and at some sugar beet fields. In this group are, from left, Clair H. Iverson, chief engineer; J.C. Crane, a senior vice-president, and Tom Army, vice president of agricultural research.
DIRECTORS MEETING

GWU Ponders New Stock

By GEORGE JOHNSTON
Denver Post Financial Editor

A regular meeting of the board of directors of Great Western United Corp. was in progress late Friday morning at the firm's corporate headquarters in Denver, a day after GWU's fourth annual stockholders meeting at Colorado City, 20 miles south of Pueblo.

A company spokesman said he would "assume" that plans to issue additional common stock in GWU would be on the agenda of the Friday meeting.

William M. White, chairman and president of GWU, said at the Thursday stockholders meeting that the board had "authorized management to improve the company's equity capital through the offering of common stock at an early date."

That authorization came at a special meeting of the board at Colorado City just prior to the stockholders meeting.

White said Thursday no criteria had been established as to the amount or when the new offering might be made. Nor was there any announcement on whether the directors had fixed a limit on the amount of the new stock offering.

While Thursday spent a busy five hours presiding at the annual meeting and fielding a large number of varied questions on company policies and operations.

Going down to overwhelming defeat were 16 resolutions and a new slate of GWU directors proposed by Gerald Armstrong, Denver, self-proclaimed stockholders advocate.

But, White early in the meeting announced that management held the upper hand by far in the number of shares voting in person or by proxy.

Thus the defeat of the alternate list of directors and the various resolutions was a mere formality. Some four hours later, when the tabulating was completed, it was announced that 73.8 per cent of the stock was represented and it was no contest.

Management's slate of 11 directors, for example, received 1,672,369 votes to 2,037 for the alternate slate. A few of the 16 resolutions did a little better in voting, but none was enough to cause a ripple in the crowd of about 200.

Most heavily supported was a resolution that future meetings be held in a "major financial center," rather than in Colorado City.

But White pointed out that Colorado City was the "literal home of the company" and that it was only 25 minutes from a major airport at Pueblo. He also expressed pleasure several times with the size of the Thursday turnout.

N. K. Mendelsohn, Los Angeles land developer who was fired by White early last year as president of Great Western Cities, a GWU subsidiary, was the chief critic of the present management at Thursday's meeting. He still owns a substantial bloc of GWU stock.

Mendelsohn addressed the meeting for nearly half an hour, airing grievances against White and criticizing management practices.

In a later question and answer period, Mendelsohn questioned White at length on a number of land dealings, primarily pertaining to one of the company's properties in California.

Among his charges were that present management is not keeping several "commitments" which were previously made. Mendelsohn charged that "we have a growing weakness in management, not the professionalism that you have been hearing about. It is management by one man, which can be very dangerous."

The speech covered charges made by Mendelsohn at a Wednesday press conference in Denver.

"I call on Mr. White to make clear if he thinks there was any wrongdoing or improper practices during my stewardship of Great Western Cities," he said at the close.

White responded briefly: "It is not my business or that of the company to impugn the reputation of employees or past employees," he said.

"While we wish Mr. Mendelsohn no harm and welcome him to this meeting, I would like you to remember that he is a former employee and that fact may influence his opinions," White told stockholders.

"We operate above the standards of the law and have imposed standards of excellence," he said. "We felt that Mr. Mendelsohn and some of his people did not meet that excellence in some respects."

White disclosed that GWU currently is dealing with Chase Manhattan Bank of New York for a $46 million line of credit, primarily for development of Great Western Cities.

White also said that the company had arranged for a $70 million line of credit for operations of Great Western Sugar Co.

White later answered a large number of questions from Armstrong and a few from others in the audience on sugar beet operations.

Asked if any of Great Western's sugar plants might close, White said there are no plans to close any "with the possible exception of the Greeley party."

He explained that it will require a large expenditure to bring the factory up to operational and ecological standard and that there has been lower beet production in north-central Colorado.

"But," White said, "if the growers will increase their acreage, we will spend whatever is required to improve the factory."

He also announced that a "$100 Million Club" had been organized in an effort to increase the contributions that agriculture makes to the north-central area. He said the company is making every effort to improve agricultural conditions there.

He made those comments after a stockholder, Mrs. Walter Nottingham of Longmont, noted that she lived near the sugar area "and that morale among the growers appeared bad."
GW Tabs Paul Blome as Grower Center Manager

Newly appointed manager of the GW Grower Service Center at Scottsbluff is Paul Blome of Scottsbluff. The announcement was made by General Manager W. C. McGuffey, Nebraska District.

Blome, a native of Dalton, has worked in the Panhandle the past 15 years. A graduate of Colorado State, he started with Great Western in Loveland, Colo. He has been an agriculturalist at Lyman and Scottsbluff.

Blome replaces Bill Nelson who moved to Denver as Director—Agricultural Program Development for the sugar company.

Changes made by Great Western

Jack Powell, recently appointed district general manager of the Great Western Sugar Company’s Northeast Colorado District, has announced several changes affecting the personnel in his district, which will be effective immediately.

Changes include the appointment of an assistant to the district general manager and the creation of a new chain of command within the district agricultural staff.

Appointed assistant to the district general manager was George Lapaseotes, former assistant agricultural manager for the firm’s Scottsbluff and Gering factories in Nebraska. Lapaseotes is a native of Bridgeport, Nebr., and attended the University of Wyoming, Laramie. He received a BS degree in Agriculture in 1958, and has been associated with Great Western since that time.

James F. Gonyou, who has been agricultural manager at the Great Western factory in Lovell, Wyo, will transfer to the Northeast Colorado District as district agricultural manager—a newly-created position. Gonyou grew up in Brighton and Ft. Collins, and received a BS degree from Colorado A&M College. He joined Great Western as an apprentice fieldman in 1948.

J. V. Ostermiller, former agricultural manager for the Ft. Morgan factory area, has been named assistant district agricultural manager for Northeast Colorado. Ostermiller attended the Merino, Colo. schools and graduated from Colorado A&M in 1932. He taught school for ten years before joining Great Western as assistant fieldman at Ft. Morgan in 1942.

LaMar Henry, who was recently transferred to Goodland, Kan., as agricultural manager for Great Western’s Kemp factory area, will now be assistant district agricultural manager for the entire Goodland area. Henry was born in Sun City, Kan., grew up near Paonia, and was graduated from Colorado State University in 1941. He joined Great Western as assistant fieldman at the Longmont Experiment Station in 1948.

Commenting on the changes, Powell said, “The realignment of field management positions has been made to allow easier and more efficient delegation of authority and responsibility within the Company. We have made the changes immediately so that moves may be made before the start of the harvest season.”

Beets Can Use Extra Growing Time This Year

Major emphasis in beet production as farmers know has been to keep the crop wet. Ample water and effort have accomplished this job with good results.

Great Western personnel have been “passing time” pending start of harvest. Efforts in recent weeks have been to get receiving stations in shape to handle beets. In instances, new equipment has been added. An entirely new set-up has been named Midway station.

Those close to the crop say “stuff looks great.” This is not applicable to every field since rhizoc and nematode “damage” can be seen in those normally subject to infesta-(continued on page 3)

BEETS—

(Continued from Page 1)
Sugar Beet Harvest Looms As Greatest Ever in Valley

It could be the best sugar beet year ever.

That's the current prediction of agriculturalists at the Great Western Sugar Co. plant at Longmont.

Based on samplings, GW officials forecast a harvest about two-tenths of a ton per acre in excess of the previous record high yield in 1959.

The samplings were taken in mid-July and on Sept. 1.

They indicated, according to GW, "one of the heaviest samples, along with the best stands."

"The beet crop was planted in late March and April, received four inches of moisture at that time and hasn't stopped growing since," GW said.

The crop also has been "reasonably free of hail, disease, and insects," the company added.

According to Frank Zumbrink, agricultural manager at the Longmont plant, the highest yield ever recorded here was in 1959.

The crop came in that year at 18.4 tons per acre.

GW scientists, Zumbrink said, "have this crop pegged at 18.6 tons per acre or better."

Beet sugar firms officials to meet

Beet sugar industry representatives from most of the Midwest and Western states will meet in Denver Wednesday with state water pollution and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials to discuss effluent guidelines applying to beet sugar production.

The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in the U.S. Custom House.

Jack Green, regional administrator for EPA, said Robert Burns of Corvallis, Ore., will serve as chairman of the meeting. Burns is an engineer in the food waste research program for EPA.

Michael LaGraff of Washington, D.C., EPA coordinator for the development of effluent guidelines for 19 industries, also will attend.

PACKAGING AWARD — Holly Sugar Corp. has won a merit award from the Paperboard Packaging Council for packaging excellence of its new sugar containers. M. C. Chenburg, (left) receives the award from W. A. MacDougall, general manager of Container Corp. of America, Santa Clara, Calif., which manufactures Holly's packages. Chenburg is Holly's vice president-marketing.
5 Firms Granted Variances From Pollution Laws

Tribune Capitol Bureau

HELENA—Three construction companies, a sugar factory, and a feed mill were granted permission by the Board of Health Friday to deviate from the state air pollution laws.

The Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association's feed mill in Glendive was cited six months ago for creating excessive dust, but it was brought out in the hearing that it just didn't feel the pressure to do anything about it.

GTA representative Wayne Sterling of Great Falls asked for a year to weigh the alternatives of putting in new machinery or building a new plant farther out of town.

Board members couldn't get over GTA's failure to do something about the dust in the two years since the standards became law and particularly since being cited for the violation.

But in the end they granted the plant six months to get with it.

Representatives of two Billings firms -- Barry O'Leary, Inc., and Empire Sand and Gravel Co. -- appeared to ask that they be allowed to use high-sulfur fuel oil in their asphalt plants for the duration of the road paving season, saying the higher cost of cleaner fuel was not provided in this year's contracts.

They were granted the variance.

Richardson Construction Co. of Miles City did not show up at the hearing, but its variance application was essentially the same as the others and he was given a variance.

The Great Western Sugar plant in Billings was given permission to use up 371,000 gallons of high-sulfur fuel oil which it bought some time ago as an auxiliary supply for when the natural gas supply is infrequently interrupted.
GREAT WESTERN AGRICULTURALIST
Roy Drage examines product of sugar beet field near Longmont plant this morning after company announced its forecast of a record beet crop this year, GW says samplings indicated yield will exceed 18.4 tons-per-acre record established in 1959.

Daily Times-Call Photo by Laverne Walker

Sugar Beet Harvest Looms
As Greatest Ever in Valley

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The crop also has been "reasonably free of hail, disease, and insects," the company added.

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The crop came in that year at 18.4 tons per acre.

GW scientists, Zumbrink said, "have this crop pegged at 18.6 tons per acre or better."

Said Zumbrink: "The samples also indicate that fields are ripening, and a high sugar content may be expected if good growing conditions continue.

"The weedicides that were applied pre-plant and post-emergence worked very well, and very little field labor was required to thin the crop.

"The beet growers are to be commended on their management of water for irrigation during the dry months of July and August, keeping the beet crop, along with other crops, in good growing condition."
Beet Harvest Plans Agreed On By WBGA

WORLAND, Wyo. (AP) — A spokesman for the Holly Sugar Corp. said Sunday harvest plans have been agreed on by the firm and the Wastlakie Beet Growers Association.

The sugar beet harvest in the county will begin Sept. 23 with beet deliveries to be restricted to the factory station until Oct. 1, when other stations also will be opened.

Pre-harvest samples indicate a high tonnage yield crop this year, he said. A 17 per cent increase in acreage this year and high yields are expected to produce the largest sugar beet tonnage ever harvested in the Worland area.

Beet Harvest Starts Sept. 27 in NE Colo.

FORT MORGAN, Colo. — (UPI) — Great Western announced sugar beet harvesting for northeastern Colorado would begin Sept. 27.

J. V. Ostermiller, assistant agriculture manager for Great Western in northeastern Colorado, said factory operations at Fort Morgan, Ovid, and Sterling would begin as soon as an adequate supply of beets was available.

Beet Crop Ready In Riverton Area

RIVERTON, Wyo. — (UPI) — A near-record 4,300-acre beet crop is ready for harvest in the Riverton area, according to Holly Sugar Corp. officials.

They estimated the crop would average more than 19 tons an acre, with higher sugar content than last year.
GW To Cut On Wastes From Plants By '74
DENVER (AP)--Discharges of polluted liquid wastes from Colorado sugar factories will be cut down by the time of the 1973-74 harvest, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was told Thursday.

Representatives of Great Western Sugar Co., Holly Sugar Co., American Sugar Co. and other sugar-producing interests made the promise in a meeting with regional EPA officials.

The federal government has been urging for two years that waste water pollutants flushed into streams be reduced by 90 per cent.

EPA officials have complained that the method of putting waste-containing water into settling ponds before discharging it into a stream has been ineffective in reducing stream pollution to acceptable standards.

In the agreement reached Thursday, the industry said it would be practicing flume water retention and recycling by the 1973-74 harvest.

Industry representatives said they would work toward EPA effluent guideline of not more than a biochemical oxygen demand value of one-half pound of waste water pollution per ton of beets processed.

Sugar plants now discharge up to 5.5 pounds of pollutants for each ton of beets, the EPA has contended.

Until Thursday's agreement, the industry had been seeking permission for up to 2.2 pounds.

The target deadline for meeting the new standard was chosen because of problems in acquiring and installing purifying equipment, an EPA spokesman said.

Environmental Agency
Requests Legal Action
Against Hawaiian Firms

Seven Sugar Mills That Had Filed
Discharge Permit Applications
Said to Pollute Coastal Waters

WASHINGTON - The Environmental Protection Agency asked the Justice Department to take legal action against seven Hawaiian sugar companies for alleged pollution of coastal waters.

All of the companies have applications for discharge permits based on the Army Corps of Engineers, but the EPA said "this doesn't appear to exempt them from prosecution" under the River and Harbor Act of 1899.

The companies are: Laupahoehoe Sugar Co., Honokaa Sugar Co., Hamakua Mill Co., Pronobee Sugar Co., Hutchinson Sugar Co., the north and south plants of Pepeekeo Sugar Co., and the north and south plants of Mauna Kea Sugar Co.

The environmental agency has made a similar request to the Justice Department regarding at least one other company with a water permit application on file. By emphasizing the permits in its latest announcement, however, the agency reinforces past promises of EPA Administrator William D. Ruckelshaus and other Nixon administration officials that mere application for a water discharge permit won't provide immunity from government action.

The 1899 law requires that industrial wastes mustn't be discharged into a navigable waterway unless covered by a corps permit. Although a scant handful of permits have been issued since the law was written, its usefulness as a weapon against water pollution was largely ignored until about two years ago.

Initially, Justice Department lawyers began filing criminal complaints under the law, which carries a fine of up to $2,500 and a year in jail on conviction. Apparently no one ever has been found for violating the 1899 law. The department subsequently expanded its enforcement to include requests for civil injunctions requiring the installation of antipollution equipment.

This year, the Corps of Engineers, working with the EPA, established machinery for issuing permits that theoretically will bind the receiving industries to a stringent cleanup timetable, written into their permits. July was the deadline for applicants to file preliminary data required by the corps, but permit requests still total less than half the approximately 40,000 anticipated.

EPA lawyers expect that sooner or later the legality of the permit procedure itself, as well as the government's right to take permit seekers to court while their applications are pending, will be challenged in federal courts.

In its action on the Hawaiian sugar mills, the EPA said the companies have been discharging "untreated and inadequately treated" mill wastewater from cane washing and stripping, sugar extraction and boiler operations.

"The effluent contains soil, plant fiber, some sugar and bacteria. These wastes visibly discolor the receiving waters and contribute objectionable floating material," the agency stated.

The EPA added that "facilities for controlling sugar mill wastes are available," and the main purpose of Justice Department action would be to get "these mills to develop an equitable time schedule for installing" them.

AT G. W. CONFERENCE
Leslie Kolb and Harold Zent were in Denver on Tuesday and Wednesday where they attended conferences with the Great Western Sugar Company. The conference was called to discuss plans involving the future of the company.
BEET HARVEST

The beets are loaded directly into railroad cars until October 1st. They are taken to the factory without piling to avoid spoilage in case of extremely warm weather.

BEET HARVEST

The only trucks hauling sugar beets into the Hysham dump Tuesday were those of George Cramer. Here Morris Moerkerke dumps the beets, assisted by Collin Caldwell, driver of the truck.
Cooperative plans to buy Great Western Sugar Co.

Organization with the objective of purchasing The Great Western Sugar Company was announced in Denver Tuesday by a new sugarbeet growers cooperative with representation in all seven states where the firm contracts with growers.

GW Sugar, largest beet sugar producer in the nation, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Great Western United Corporation in Denver.

The surprise move was disclosed by Robert Y. Sakata, a beet grower who farms near Brighton, Colo. Sakata was elected chairman of the board of directors of the new Great Western Producers Co-operative upon its incorporation in Denver on Sept. 15. He is president of the National Beet Growers Federation and a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Growers Marketing Association of Colorado and Kansas.

Concrete Plans

Sakata stressed that the grower group has concrete plans to purchase GW Sugar. He said the 60-year-old firm would be operated as a subsidiary of the co-operative under the direction of Robert R. Owen, who was elected president of the new grower group. Owen was president of GW Sugar until his removal last June.

Sakata said the sugar beet co-operative would provide one means for the grower to control the destiny of his crop from farm to market place. It would also create, he said, the confidence needed for a sound sugar industry. Sakata added:

"This is the kind of opportunity that comes once in a lifetime for the beet grower. And it may well open up a new era in the sugarbeet business, bringing together those people with the most exacting experience on the beet farm and in the sugar factory."

Under the purchase plans, individual growers would participate in the financing by investing $1 for each ton of beets they deliver during the harvest this fall. In the case of a crop-sharing land-owner and farm operator, their tonnage investment would be prorated according to their sharing agreement.

There are about 6,000 growers in the seven states served by GW Sugar—Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Ohio and Michigan. With about six million tons of beets to be harvested this fall, their initial investment in the co-operative would be about $6 million. The grower members would also pay a membership fee of $5.00.

The grower outlay for the purchase of GW Sugar would be backed up by additional outside financing. Sakata said the co-operative has been assured by financial consultants that adequate funds can be arranged. These arrangements are now under way, he added.

Along with GW Sugar, the purchase would include the firm's two principal subsidiaries—the Northern Ohio Sugar Co., with beet acreage and sugar factories at Fremont and Findlay, Ohio, plus other acreage at Blissfield, Mich.; and the Great Western Railway Company, a short-line freight road serving sugar factories in northern Colorado.

In addition to Sakata and Owen, two other officers of the new co-operative were elected by the board of directors at the organizational meeting. They are Harry Weber, a beet grower who farms near Mitchell, Neb., who became vice chairman of the board, and Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, Colo., who became secretary and general counsel.

Weber is president of the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Association, and Daniel was formerly assistant secretary and assistant director of legal affairs at the Denver office of GW Sugar.

The organization meeting was attended by more than 50 beet growers who are either officers or directors of grower associations in the seven states. The grower co-operative named 16 members to the board of directors, including Sakata and Weber. They include six other presidents of grower associations:

Harlan Seaworth of Wellington, Colo., who heads the Colorado-Kansas group; Howard Hart of Powell, Wyo., head of the Big Horn growers; Ismael (Babe) Yost of Billings, Mont., head of the Montana group; Wayne E. Young of Lexington, Neb., head of the Central Nebraska group; Robert Rimelspach of the Fremont growers in Ohio; and Larry Schaller of Waterville, Ohio, who heads the Blissfield group.

The eight other directors are either officers or directors of their local grower associations. They are:


Great Western Sugar operates 19 factories in six states—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana, and two in Ohio. Its market area consists of the mid-continent tier of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes.

Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.
SUGAR BEET GROWERS MAKE PLANS TO BUY G. W. SUGAR COMPANY

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John Mitzel of Keenesburg is one of 16 beet growers named to the board of directors.

Mitzel announced that Robert Owen, president of Great Western Producers Cooperative, will be the speaker at a meeting to be held in Keenesburg Thursday, Sept. 30, at the American Legion Hall at 7:30 p.m. All sugar beet growers are urged to attend. Mitzel said, as information regarding the objectives of the cooperative will be presented and questions answered.

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Beet Corporation Attempts to Purchase Great Western Sugar

Beet growers formed a co-operative at Denver, Colo., and announced they will try to acquire and operate Great Western Sugar Co., the nation's largest beet sugar producer.

Robert Y. Sakata of nearby Brighton, elected chairman of the new Great Western Producers Cooperative, said the 50 growers who attended the meeting authorized a study of possible means to finance the acquisition.

Part of the financing would come from growers investing $1 for every ton of beets harvested this fall, Sakata said. This, he said, would be about $6 million if all growers participated.

Outside financing would also be arranged, Sakata said.

Fixed assets of Great Western Sugar were estimated at $60 million by Robert R. Owen, a former Great Western president whom directors of the co-operative named as their president.

Owen said the purchase price could range as high as $100 million.

When asked about the new co-operative, Bob Everett, current president of Great Western Sugar, said he had received no offer.

Bridgeport News-Blade
Bridgeport, Morrill Co.,
Nebraska 69336
Thursday, September 23, 1971
PAGE SIX

“At this point in time, the company is not for sale,” Everett said. “But if we received a proposal, especially from that group of growers who are really our partners, we'd have to give it consideration.”

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Basin Republican
Rustler 9-23-71

G W ANNOUNCES CROP PRICES

New crop prices effective Monday, Sept. 20 for pelleted beet pulp by Great Western Sugar Co., will be $87.50 per ton, a reduction of $8.50 per ton.

This is the opening price and will be subject to change. Large storage capacity for pellets at the factory will make supplies available on a year around basis.

Plan Purchase of Great Western

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Basin Republican
Rustler 9-23-71

Expect Big Crop, Rotarians Told

A bumper crop of sugar beets is expected in southern Big Horn County this year barring any severe weather during harvesting, Paul McMillan, fieldman for the Great Western Sugar Co., told members of the Basin Rotary club at their luncheon meeting last Thursday.

An average yield above 20 tons to the acre is well within the realm of possibility and many growers are expected to get yields well above that.

Sugar content is lower this year, but will be balanced by the bigger yield.

Harvesting operations in the Lovell factory district began on Monday and piling is expected to begin October 1.
Grower Group Can Buy Sugar Firm, Owen Says

By JIM McNABNEY
Tribune Staff Writer

The former president of the Great Western Sugar Company said Thursday night he has no doubt a newly formed sugar beet growers' cooperative can purchase GW, the largest beet sugar processing firm in the nation.

"I would not be devoting my time and effort to this thing if I had any doubt," Robert R. Owen told a meeting of beet growers and local bankers here Thursday night.

'Good Business Deal'

"My judgment is it's a good business deal for Great Western United and a good business deal for the grower," Owen said.

Owen was recently placed as head of the sugar company in a top level management shake-up in the firm. William M. White, president and chairman of the board of GWU, parent firm of the sugar company, took the post of chairman of the board of the sugar company and George Wilber, formerly of GWU was appointed to the presidential post.

The shift caused irate reactions among sugar beet growers who have held several meetings with White and others in the company.

Despite assurances from the sugar company of continuation of earlier policies, growers were apparently not satisfied.

"The formal announcement of the formation of a cooperative to purchase and operate the company came earlier this week, but behind the scenes work has been underway for several months."

Owen said, "This is going to be an incentive for a lot of young farmers," because they will be able to build a solid fund for eventual retirement.

Owen also stressed that there would be no possible way that growers could be hurt if the company should get into financial trouble. The growers have no financial attachment to the company other than $1-per-ton investment, Owen said, and no grower's property could be touched to pay off debts of the company.

Owen stressed that growers would receive all the money generated by the sugar company.

"The sugar company is not going to make any money," he said. "The money will go to the cooperative."

Production Increase

Owen also predicted a large rise in sugar beet production if the cooperative plan is carried out. He even said he could see the time when present plant capacity could be exhausted.

Members of the cooperative would be first in line to sign up for beet production, and would be allowed to produce even if capacity was reached, Owen pointed out, although the company would still deal with non-members as long as they could process those beets.

In the cooperative arrangement, Owen said, "The interests of both the company and the grower will be considered," adding that marketing would be tailored to provide the maximum return to the grower.

About 6,000 growers in six states are now in the Great Western territory. The company owns 19 factories in the six states.

Bankers at the meeting Thursday night generally expressed approval of the move. There had been some fear among growers that bankers might question the $1-per-ton investment, but one banker pointed out:

"Any bank understands the need for operating capital and that's what this is. I don't think that presents any problem."

Meetings of growers are being slated in all parts of the GW area. Owen said a meeting was being held in Billings, Mont., Friday evening.

Several other meetings will be held in this area, local growers leaders said.

Owen told the group he hoped the purchase of the sugar company would be complete by the end of the year.

"That is the timetable," Owen said.

Owen stressed that grower support is crucial to completion of the deal.

"When we get 5,000 or 6,000 growers signed up (for the cooperative) there will be considerably more leverage," he pointed out.

Owen also said that the announcement of the cooperative came as no surprise to Great Western United management.

"My relationship with Great Western United are good," Owen said. "They are business-like. There have been no surprises."

Owen outlined the return to growers from the cooperative, saying that within 11 years, when it is projected the debt would be half paid off, growers will have built an equity of $50 to $100 in the company for every dollar now invested.

Growers are being asked to invest $1-per-ton of beets harvested this fall.

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GREAT WESTERN SUGAR COMPANY
RESEARCH LIBRARY
Beets Need More Hot Weather; Bean Harvest Nearly Completed in Area

Beets
Good high temperatures and ample sunshine — that's the key for making beets reach maturity sooner. But with the cold and wet spell that hit this area the first of the week it may make some difference, especially if it continues, for the harvest.

The yellowing of the crop in many fields pointed to a ripening of beet plants. As GW manager Red Johnson at Bayard said, this is the time to improve sugar and purity of the crop — all dependent upon weather conditions.

Beans
Considering all things, the bean harvest is going well this season.

Jake Schmunk, who farms northwest of Bayard, figured his 15 acres of beans would average about 40 bushels per acre. Crops on his place were hailed in June and were waterlogged early in the season, but moved along without trouble from that point on.

Schmunk's 30 acres of corn rated pretty good. As for his 27 acres of beets, they are also doing well.

Dave Henkel, Jr., rolling his combine along trying to wind up harvest of his 91 acres of beans last week on the county line about seven miles northwest of Bayard, has been getting up about 3:00 a.m. to keep the harvest moving.

Corn
Though much of the corn may be out of danger from the cold weather, men in the business pointed out that there will be some soft corn regardless of the freeze. Despite encouragement to plant earlier varieties, some producers have stuck with 110-120-day corn.

In spots, the corn has matured to the point that silage cutting last week may have been a mistake.

The average corn crop could use a few more days maturity, and some fields still need another week or so of growth.

The price of corn locally dipped a little more, about $2.10 cwt.

Pelleted Beet Pulp Prices Announced

New crop prices effective Monday, Sept. 27, for pelleted beet pulp in The Great Western Sugar Company's Northeast Colorado-Kansas District were announced today by Jack Powell, district general manager.

The price at the Sterling, Fort Morgan, Ovid and Goodland factories will be $35 per ton, a reduction of $14.75 per ton from the most recently-quoted price.

"This is the opening price and is subject to change according to market conditions," Powell said. "As in the past, sugar beet growers have first call for the product, but we estimate the supply to be sufficient for most area needs."

Powell also pointed out that the large storage capacity for pellets at the factories will make supplies available on a year-around basis for area customers.

Basin Republican

Kuester 9-23-74

BEETS AND BEANS ROLL INTO BASIN

Truckloads of beans and sugar beets rumbled into Basin this week as harvesting continues.

A record 16.5 cars were loaded in first day operations at the Basin receiving station as the first of a bumper crop of beets was delivered. Eight cars were loaded at the Greybull receiving station and three at Manderson.

Paul McMillan, Great Western Sugar Co. field man, said 90 tons of beets were harvested from a 3.5-acre field farmed by Phillip Hartman, son of Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Hartman of Basin. The field was planted with a new hybrid seed developed by Great Western.

New scales scheduled for installation at the Basin receiving station were not in place as the season opened Monday and beet trucks were weighed at the Big Horn Co-Operative Marketing Assn. The new scales are expected to be in use before the week is out.

Meanwhile, beans continue to arrive at the Basin mills. E. H. Walthr & Sons, Inc., estimated Monday that 40 per cent of the company's associated harvest they expect to receive has been delivered. Estimates at Big Horn Co-Operative Marketing Assn., ranged up to 20 per cent.
Shake-Up At GW Reported

An organizational shake-up at Great Western Cities, subsidiary of Great Western United Corp., surfaced within the past week with all involved maintaining a tight-lipped silence as to reasons.

At least four vice-presidents of GW Cities have, or will, resign, Cerul's Journal learned.

Thomas H. Dudley, vice-president for Organization and Personnel, Charles Rich, vice-president for Title and Registration and Norman Gross, Senior Vice-president have all resigned last week.

According to Great Western United Spokesmen, that's all the resignations received.

"Tell them to wait a couple of days," one of the vice-presidents who resigned said.

At least one other vice-president is expected to resign. Before the great exodus there were seven vice-presidents at Great Western Cities.

All cited "personal reasons" for leaving and refused to discuss any internal dissension within the company. "Why don't you ask Bill?" one of the men said.

William White, president and chairman of the board of Great Western United will continue to run Great Western Cities and no replacements for the four men are contemplated.

---GW VPs---

From Page 1

When contacted by Cerul's White said he felt the resignations were an outgrowth of Great Western Cities recent headquarters move from Los Angeles to Denver.

"Some of the individuals were not ready to accept, perhaps, the discipline of rigorous management working for Great Western in Denver meant," White said. "Some may not have liked the Denver life-style."

When told that Dudley had gone to work for Phillips Personnel Service as a Director of Executive Search in Denver, White said, "Fine. In that case, then, it must have been the discipline of rigorous management in working for Great Western."

White would confirm only that three vice-presidents had resigned. As to the fourth, he said, "I don't comment on matters of which I have no knowledge from subjects I don't know."

---Relations chief named by GWU---

The appointment of J. Michael Nolan of Denver as director of corporate communication for Great Western United Corp. was announced Friday by Neil Peck, vice president for legal affairs and secretary of the company.

Nolan will handle shareholder communications, public and media relations, and preparation of the firm's annual report.

Nolan was previously with United Press International, and worked on the staff of former Lt. Gov. Mark Hogan.
Damage to Beet Crop Still Undetermined

Great Western Sugar Company agricultural officials said Thursday they still aren't sure what the effect of the recent snowstorm and freezing weather will be on this year's sugar beet crop.

But early reports of sampling from two north-central district factories indicated a better than average crop thus far.

22 Tons

Preliminary reports on sampling taken this week showed an average of 22 tons per acre in that district with the sugar content running about 13½ per cent.

Dr. Clarence Davan, north central general manager, pointed out, however, that wet fields have contributed to the high tonnage estimate. The Longmont crop will probably yield about 19 tons per acre, he said, adding that the sugar content will probably rise to about 14 per cent when fields dry out and harvest begins.

An even better crop was indicated in the Loveland district from early reports but fields are wet in that area, too.

Great Western officials pointed out Thursday that: "We really don't know yet about the effects of the freeze."

Great Western agriculturists and officials met at the Greeley sugar factory Thursday for an explanation of tare procedures for check taremen from the Mountain States Beet Growers Assn.

Growers Check

The beet growers keep a check on tare procedures in all GW tarehouses while the harvest is underway.

"The tareman is the most important man in the factory," Lee Johnson, executive secretary of the association said Thursday, pointing out that improper tares can result in losses to both grower and company.

The tare is the analysis of the beets delivered for sugar content and other factors entering into the processing. Each load of beets delivered has a sample taken from it when unloaded and that sample is used to determine payment to the grower.

Great Western Sugar Company's Nebraska District, has announced several changes in agricultural field staff assignments for his district. The changes are a part of Great Western's previously-announced realignment of field personnel, McGuffey said, and are intended to place more authority and responsibility at the field management level.

"Each factory district will now have an Agricultural Administrator who is charged with the administrative responsibility for agriculture in his district, as well as line responsibilities," McGuffey reported.

Describing the realignment, McGuffey said, "Leonard Henderson, as District Agricultural Manager, has been assigned full responsibility for the total agricultural program in the Nebraska District. He will be assisted by Bill Gray, Assistant District Agricultural Manager.

R. Gordon Rudolph, Agricultural Manager at Mitchell and I. L. "Red" Johnson, Agricultural Manager at Bayard, will become Agricultural Administrators at their respective factories.

Allen Berry, former Agricultural Superintendent at Fort Morgan, has been transferred to the Agricultural Department at Mitchell.

All changes are effective immediately.

EARLY SNOW TAKES AREA BY SURPRISE; DAMAGES CROPS

Bright sunny Colorado skies were the weather fare these past few days after the unseasonal snow storm which started Sept. 16 and left over a foot of snow.

Snow began falling the evening of Sept. 16, continuing all night and all day Friday. Snow fell again on Monday and Tuesday.

A total of 2.46 inches of moisture was received in the storms according to Al Anger, Great Western Sugar Co. agriculturist. Anger reported the moisture as follows: Friday 1.18, Saturday .56, Tuesday .66 and Wednesday .30.

The early snow and low temperatures which followed brought grave concern for crops not harvested. Hardest hit were the bean and corn crops which were at the peak of their harvest.

Sugar beets, though suffering some damage, are expected to weather the storm with fewer ill effects than other crops, as is the onion crop.

The moisture was welcomed by dry land wheat farmers many of whom had just completed seeding and others who needed moisture before planting their winter wheat.

Early snows such as this does heavy damage to trees by breaking limbs still in full leaf.

Utility companies were busy during the storm repairing lines broken by the heavy snow and falling tree limbs.
"You can keep your 40 acres to yourself and enjoy also our Burnt Tree private camping, hunting and fishing preserve, open only to landowners and a limited number of guests," he said. "Or you can enjoy and join in with inevitable industrial development, planned hydroelectric power projects, coal mining, recreational development or creation of a retirement haven."

He said Gulf Oil Co. proposes a 15 million hydrocarbon plant near the ranch to convert the estimated 24 billion tons of sulfur-laden coal in the area into natural gas.

Boyar's firm is involved in a proposed 2,326-acre development near Bergen Park in the foothills west of Denver. Approval of the development is being sought from the Jefferson County Planning Commission.

Boyar is a former vice president in charge of development for Great Western Cities Co., a subsidiary of Denver-based Great Western United Corp.
Sugar Beet Growers: It’s Your Move!

By Jim Nunon
Business Farmer Publisher

One of the most startling ideas to come along the pike—as far as local producers are concerned—is the proposal of the newly formed beet grower cooperative to buy all of the assets of The Great Western Sugar Company.

The fact that grower representatives had said they planned to attend the GW annual meeting in Denver to air special grievances prior to the session had suggested a major move could be in the wind. Certainly, grower purchase of the sizeable Great Western Sugar Company is an ambitious goal, one with ample pitfalls.

It is noteworthy at a local level to call attention to the fact that a number of valley producers—Harry Weber, Lou Towater and Ken Carpenter—were named to the board at the time the new cooperative was incorporated. The Nebraska Beet Growers Association has not been the least bashful about pushing strongly for changes which it felt could benefit producers.

Local beet grower officials have been downright positive that growers benefit from every provision written into the annual contract. The point of all this, of course, is to emphasize that the very men involved in the proposed purchase have had both feet firmly embedded in the sugar business. They have more than just a little bit of understanding about what goes on in the processing end of the business.

At this juncture, it might be well to wander a bit from specifics to talk about agriculture and its difficulties—for this proposal for growers to process their own product is basic to the economics of agriculture today. Industry and business people serving agriculture generally have lost much enthusiasm for the farm and ranch way of life. They have found as a matter of practical economics that other segments of business offer a more profitable approach—and that is the direction to which many ag-oriented industries are being pushed.

The Business Farmer, in its efforts to serve ranch and farm people, has found that too many business people at this local level casually accept farm and ranch business which is basic to the area. But, given a choice, these local businesses go for the profit business—which apparently is not from those in agriculture. The only reason for this, of course, is that the purchasing power of agriculture because of the low prices it gets for products has been compressed. Farm and ranch people simply do not offer as much potential profit . . . and that’s the name of the game—profit . . . as do urban consumers who outnumber country people 20 to 1.

What does this have to do with the beet grower proposal to get into the processing end of the business? Plenty!

Efforts to bargain with processors have not been worked out to the satisfaction of many producers. So the ultimate goal of the producers may be to operate their own processing plants for the common good of all who grow crops for this particular operation.

Oh, the pitfalls are many! And, having watched small business operators take on a giant-sized industry and get trapped in their inability to cope with size and the destructiveness of a downward trend, this writer knows that more than enthusiasm will be needed to take one on—this with the stature and scope of The Great Western Sugar Company.

Some things—at the outset—show evidence of good thinking on the part of those trying to get this giant project moving. Robert R. Owen, former Great Western president, is directly involved. Another Great Western official is listed among the cooperative’s officers—one who has legal know-how based on GW experiences. These are real assets indicating that those behind this move have done homework on the matter.

Involvement of each grower and landowner ($1 a ton for each ton produced in 1971) in the actual investment of the proposed purchase is practical. The investment per farm is not excessive. Just what the interest charge on the balance of the purchase price may be is unknown, but those with whom the Business Farmer has talked have indicated funds can be obtained at most favorable rates, particularly due to the type of organization being considered. Special tax attractions, too, have been a factor in the approach the prospective buyers have taken.

A serious handicap quite common to agricultural boards is the inability of many who get to these positions in one way or another to think big. For a man on the ground floor, earning in the $20,000 a year bracket to consider a president who may be

(Continued on Page 7)
SUGAR BEET——

(Continued from Page 1)

worth $100,000 a year may tax his credibility—and that could be a mistake. On the other hand, casual acceptance of the management’s view—a matter of real concern to investors who find boards rarely serve the real purpose for which they were chosen—is equally serious. In these days when world-wide operators can’t keep afloat economically, a major business disaster resulting from inept management or trying to cope with something too big to understand is not impossible. That could hurt every beet community.

This could be a real challenge, one of profound influence on the lives of all beet communities involved. The Business Farmer has had nothing but admiration for the Great Western Sugar Company as it has been in the past. The company’s able staff has been one of the outstanding assets of every beet area. Officials at the local and headquarters level have been grower oriented, so there had been no need to be alarmed about this particular situation. It would be a shame if a grower group failed to appreciate this specific service.

These are just a few of the many things local producers need to think about as they consider this most enlightened proposal of the day. Once again, this is the era of the giants. The suggestion that beet growers get into the processing end of the business is natural evolution.

In a nutshell, the whole thing gets down to this: Can producers and their representatives cope? We have seen few local grower cooperatives make much headway. This has not been true of the Nebraska Non-Stock Beet Growers Association. However, what is under consideration is a whole new ball game which positively will test the best of all concerned. “Big” thinking is involved. The beet economy in areas such as this has been vital to all.

A time for a change is due. Are you prepared to take upon yourselves your own destinies? That’s what is involved here and there must be no mistake about that!
Growers To Be Sugar Makers?

Cooperative Format Basis of GW Purchase Proposal

Beet grower representatives from 7 states have been organized into a new cooperative. Object: Purchase of The Great Western Sugar Company.

Chief spokesman of the group, called Great Western Producers Co-operative, is R. Y. Sakata, president of the National Beet Growers Federation as well as a director and past president of the Mountain States Beet Grower Marketing Association of Colorado and Kansas. The cooperative was formed Sept. 15 in Denver with Harry Weber, named vice chairman of the board. Weber is from Mitchell and currently, president of the Nebraska beet growers.

The move, unexpected in its scope but not unexpected in its move to consolidate the position of the beet producer, calls for operation of the new association with Great Western continuing as a subsidiary. What is of major importance to all concerned has been the plan of purchase which includes urging growers to participate directly—by investing $1 a ton of beets harvested this fall. Tonnage investment between landowner and farmer-renter will be "prorated according to their sharing agreement."

In commenting on the financing, Harry Weber Tuesday said that the matter has been clarified with New York investment firms. The money can be obtained through them, but the investors want a clear-cut indication that growers will be behind the purchase and so the $1 per ton program was developed.

Based on the fact that there are 6,000 growers in the 7 states served by GW Sugar in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Ohio and Michigan, about $6 million can be raised directly. This estimate has been based on the prospective production of 6 million tons of beets this year. Each grower member would be asked to pay a $5 membership fee.

The cooperative approach, Weber said, offers many special advantages both in obtaining low-cost financing as well as taxes. Because of this, he went on, the purchase plan has been based on utilization of this type of set-up for the proposed purchase of the sugar firm. Considerable work remains to be done in making this purchase possible, but the plan has many merits as far as Weber is concerned.

Certainly, according to Sakata, the plan has moved further than the proposal stage. The GW United board has approved the sale, details have been pinned down and auditors for the new association are making a study in depth of Great Western Sugar books and inventories.

President of the association is Robert R. Owen who has served as president of GW Sugar, a 66-year-old firm. Owen moved from the presidency of GW Sugar to the board of GW United. He later resigned.

In recent months, sugar beet growers have been concerned about the growing emphasis of GW United on matters other than the sugar business. Because of this and because growers generally have felt the need to—as Sakata put the matter this week—"control the destiny of his crop from farm to market place," the purchase proposal came about. This move by the sugar beet cooperative, Sakata went on, will create the confidence needed for a sound sugar industry.

The association plans to buy Great Western Sugar Company as well as 2 subsidiaries—the Northern Ohio Sugar Company (factories at Fremont and Findlay with acreage near Blissfield, Mich.) and the Great Western Railway Company, a short-line freight road serving sugar factories in northern Colorado.

Jerry C. Daniel of Littleton, Colo. will act as secretary-general counsel of the beet grower cooperative. He was formerly assistant director of legal affairs and assistant secretary of Great Western Sugar Company.

The cooperative organization meeting was attended by more than 50 beet growers who are either officers or directors of grower associations in the seven states. The grower co-operative named 16 members to the board of directors, including Sakata and Weber. They include six other presidents of grower associations:

Harlan Seaworth of Wellington, Colo., who heads the Colorado-Kansas group; Howard Hart of Powell, Wyo., head of the Big Horn growers; Ishmael (Babe) Yost of Billings, Mont., head of the Montana group; Wayne E. Young of Lexington, Neb., head of the Central Nebraska group; Robert Rimel, head of the Fremont growers in Ohio; and Larry Schaller of Waterville, Ohio, who heads the Blissfield group.

The eight other directors are either officers or directors of their local grower associations. They are:


Great Western Sugar operates 19 factories in six states—10 in Colorado, four in Nebraska, one each in Kansas, Wyoming and Montana, and two in Ohio. Its market area consists of the mid-continent tier of states from the Rockies to the Great Lakes. Sales in its last fiscal year totaled more than $175 million.
Beet growers plan to purchase Great Western Sugar Co.

The Great Western Sugar Co. will be purchased by a cooperative formed by sugar beet growers if plans made by a group of growers meeting in Denver next week materialize.

Ishmael (Babe) Yost and Joe Alles, spokesmen for the group said this was the kind of opportunity that would come once in a lifetime. The new organization is called the Great Western Producers Cooperative. "It would give those who belong to the co-op the chance to both produce the sugar beets and have part in the processing at their local sugar mills," they said.

There are some 500 sugar beet growers in the Billings area who will be eligible to join the cooperative. Yost figured a 16 ton crop could bring in a gross return to the sugar beet grower of $250-$300. They stated that this would not so much change the cooperative plans but that the profits now going to the stockholders will revert to the growers.

The deal is still in the programming stage it was announced. The deal has not yet been made.

A MEETING IN BILLINGS

Local beet growers have been invited to a meeting Friday, September 24 (tonight) at 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Hotel in Billings.

The growers will be given information on the cooperative, Harold Zent and Leslie Kolb, who attended the meeting in Denver last week, urged all sugar beet growers to attend the meeting as the results will be very important in determining the future of the beet industry in this area.

Robert R. Owen, former president of GW who was ousted from his job last year has been hired to become president of the firm once the coop has purchased it. Mr. Owen will attend the Friday meeting in Billings.

Sugar beet growers who wish to become part of the cooperative effort to purchase the sugar company will purchase a five dollar membership in the cooperative and be asked to contribute one dollar per ton of sugar beets they produced in 1971 toward the purchase price of the sugar concern.

"This will bring in about $6 million" it was announced, "The rest of the purchase price will be financed."

Eaton growers plan meeting on buying company

Sugarbeet growers in the Eaton area of the Mountain States Beet Growers Association have slated a meeting to discuss the purchase of the Great Western Sugar Company by a grower's cooperative.

"We have to move fast and forcibly to take advantage of this unique opportunity," local President H. L. Brooks said in a letter to growers this week.

The meeting will be held in the Eaton American Legion Hall, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28. Brooks said growers should bring social security numbers or other tax identification with them.
SYMPHONY IN SWEET CORN

By BARTELL NYBERG

Sept. 26, 1971

SAKATA FARMS, near Brighton, a half hour's drive north of Denver, markets more than 12 million ears of sweet corn each year. Twelve million! Enough roasting ears, if laid end to end, to stretch from Denver to Atlanta, Ga., and back.

Between July 15 and early October this corn is sold in supermarkets from Los Angeles, Calif., to Little Rock, Ark., and from El Paso, Tex., to Omaha, Neb.

Robert Sakata, a chunky dynamo—his bare feet 6 inches tall—in green-tinted glasses, directs every facet of his "factory farm" with the precise confidence of a veteran symphony conductor.

On the telephone or two-way radio in his small, air-conditioned office, or at the wheel of his radio-equipped Chevrolet pickup truck, Sakata guides more than 100 employees and a quarter-million dollars of farm equipment at sweet-corn harvest time.

Much of that equipment is tailor-made in Sakata's machine shop. Sakata Farms has the only two mechanical sweet-corn harvesters (cost: $25,000 each) in this entire region. They were designed by Sakata and his men, with the engineering details and manufacturing handled by FMC Corp. of Hoopeston, Ill.

Sakata produces roughly half the sweet corn grown commercially in Colorado. A highly perishable vegetable, sweet corn requires near perfection from planting to supermarket—or it's worthless. Supplying this perfection has become almost an obsession with Sakata. During the harvest he works at it from 4 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Timing is critical, in seedbed preparation or picking and processing the corn.

Nothing is left to chance. Sakata's incredibly detailed records reveal cost factors that average farmers never would discover. For example, his field-by-field logs may show that Field A yields the best return when it is plowed at 3½ miles per hour, while Field B across the fence must be plowed at 4 miles per hour to earn the highest profit.

His budget, broken down by fields, is accurate to one-hundredth of a cent.

Work on next year's crop begins in one field while the current harvest is underway in another. Each summer and fall the ground is plowed, mulched and leveled.

In the spring herbicides are sprayed on the fields for weed control, the soil is aerated and it's ready to plant. Determining exact seeding times is perhaps the most critical operation on the farm, one Sakata personally directs. (Sakata delegates much of the other detail to what he terms an outstanding work force, headed by production manager Adam Kniss Jr.)

For maximum return growers must be able to harvest sweet corn over the longest possible period of time—without over-producing. To guard against extensive hail damage at any one time, Sakata scatters plantings with similar maturity dates among widely separated fields, some as far as 25 miles from "headquarters" on Bromley Lane.

Sakata schedules his 1,000-plus acres of sweet corn into 96 different plantings, ordinarily starting April 1. But the exact date depends on soil temperature; he never plants before the soil temperature reaches 45 degrees. His target date for the 96th planting is July 4.

If Mother Nature cooperates, that schedule will assure roasting ears from July 15 through the first frost (hopefully in early October). Depending on weather and seed variety, Sakata's corn takes anywhere from 72 to 120 days to mature.

Seed kernels are planted 12 inches apart in the row, about 17,000 kernels per acre. On the average the fields are irrigated six times before harvest.

One of sweet-corn growers' biggest problems is controlling insects. Besides the borer (or ear worm), there are aphids, spider mites, red spiders and rootworms.

Sakata virtually guarantees worm-free corn, but it takes some doing. Moths lay their eggs on the silk of growing corn ears. The eggs hatch in about two days and young worms crawl into the ear. Once the worms are inside the husks, it's too late to do anything about them.

Thus Sakata has a maximum of two days to rid the corn of each new hatch by aerial spraying. Thick husks protect developing kernels from the pesticide.

The hydrocooler (a machine which bashes the sweet corn in ice water after it is packed in crates) also washes away pesticide which sticks to the husks.

The Food and Drug Administration regularly samples Sakata's sweet corn, but inspectors never have found any problems.

Sakata's four-point checklist to determine the harvest date for a field includes the planting date and corn variety, the date tassels begin forming inside the stalk, the date tassels are visible outside the stalks and the date silk first appears on young ears. To backstop this "book" information, Sakata samples ears before ordering harvesters to roll into a new field.

As long as anyone can remember, laborers picked corn by hand, tossing the ears into wagons. Sakata, who has grown corn commercially since 1956, was well aware of the limitations. In 1962 he got an idea for a mechanical, self-propelled sweet-corn harvester, a machine gentle enough to harvest tender corn ears.

For a couple of years, nobody listened. Then, the FMC Corp. sent an engineer to Brighton to work on the details. Sakata's design, with FMC's engineering know-how, made the harvester a reality three years ago.

Each of Sakata's two red-and-white harvesters can pick about 10 acres daily. A harvester, moving 3 to 3½ miles per hour and picking two rows at a time, grabs the ear while knives slice the stalk off the stalk. A conveyor carries the ears, husks intact, to a holding bin. When the bin is full (capacity is about 3,000 ears), another conveyor unloads the corn into wagons. Yield varies from a low of about 800 dozen ears per acre to a high of nearly 2,000 dozen.

Photography by George Crouter
HOUSE DOCTOR

By HERMAN BAUM

BEFORE YOU put away your aluminum patio furniture for the winter, you might want to make repairs, such as re-taping. Exposure to the weather does take its toll, causing tapes to break.

New tapes, in 17-foot and 72-foot packages, are available in hardware stores. Most inexpensive chairs and chaises will have four tapes in each direction on backs and seats. It is customary to use one color tape in one direction and another color in the opposite. For four-tape chairs, you will require two 17-foot packages. If you have a better grade five-tape chair, one 72-foot package would be sufficient for one chaise, but all the tapes will be the same color.

Re-taping is simple. You can complete a chair in about one hour.

First remove the broken tapes. Save the screws and washers because you will need them again. Use a cloth tape to measure the distance across the front of the chair, around the tubing to the holes on each side. Add 3½ inches and cut the tapes to this measurement. Make two folds in the ends of the tapes as illustrated. Use a pointed instrument to punch holes through the triangles formed about 3/8-inch from the point. Insert the screw and washer, and fasten one end of the tape in place. Fold the other end and stretch it tight, locate the hole to be punched for the screw, and fasten this end.

Tapes on some chairs are fastened with metal clips instead of screws. The clips must be pried out with a screwdriver. In so doing they will be damaged and cannot be re-used, so obtain a supply of new ones before you start.

With these clips, cut a slot 1½ inches from the end of the tape. Insert the point of the clip so the clip will be covered when you pull the tape around the top of the tubing. Stretch the tape and locate the slot to be cut in the opposite end.

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Tractors pull the loaded wagons to the packing shed not far from the farmhouse. Ben Sena, shed foreman, directs a crew of 35 to 40 persons, who process up to 900 crates (five dozen ears per crate) per hour.

Many of the packers are college girls working for the summer. Their function is to select corn ears off a conveyor and place them in wooden crates. Packers judge quality primarily by the feel of the ears. If the tip is soft, it indicates the ear has worms or smut (a fungus) or is immature. Rejected ears ultimately become fodder for a Brighton cattle feeder.

"I tell the packers to pack only ears they would buy in the store themselves," Sakata says. "If they don't think an ear is good, they throw it out. I never reprimand anyone for throwing out good ears."

On an average day packers crate 15,000 to 20,000 dozen ears. Harvesting and packing is so well coordinated that often corn is crated and in the cooler within 30 minutes after being plucked from the stalk.

The hydrocolder circulates ice water through the crates for 30 minutes to an hour, chilling even the core of the ear below 38 degrees.

From the cooler, crates go into refrigerated trucks which head for supermarket warehouses in any of 11 states.

"Time is the critical factor in the sweet corn business—the time from picking the corn to the cooler to the supermarket shelf," says Sakata. He explains that the flavor comes from the sugar, dextrose, in the kernels. As corn matures, the sugar is converted to starch, a process which robs roasting ears of their flavor.

A truck leaving Sakata's dock at noon one day will reach Phoenix, Ariz., by 8 a.m. the next day. Sakata corn sold in Denver supermarkets might be less than a day old when placed in a housewife's shopping basket.

Cecil Hellbusch, an executive in Safeway's Denver division, says his firm buys the bulk of its roasting ears from Sakata because he provides a constant supply of high quality corn. Safeway is Sakata's biggest customer, though he has no growing contracts.

The price of sweet corn is determined by supply and demand. "I'm on the phone from 4 a.m. on each day to determine the supply and know what the price can be," says Sakata. During the harvest, his monthly phone bill runs from $800 to $1,000.

In Denver supermarkets, the retail price of a roasting ear in season usually varies between a nickel and a dime. Sakata says if the price on the shelf is a nickel, you can be sure the grower is barely meeting his cost.

"The price at which I sell sweet corn today is virtually the same price at which my father sold sweet corn in California in the late 1930s." But his father didn't have to pay for a $25,000 harvester, and labor cost 25 cents per hour rather than $1.60 or $2.

Oh, yes. There isn't a penny of government subsidy in roasting ears.
For Sakata, hard work is fun

BOB SAKATA is one of the new breed of farmers who is searching constantly for new methods, new seed, new machinery to improve the food production business. His efforts are bringing him success where less visionary farmers are leaving the land in despair.

“It's easier to be a follower in farming than a leader,” says Sakata. “It's easy to let someone else bear the risks and sweat of new developments. But we must have these new developments if farming is to survive and thrive, and someone must take the lead.”

Sakata Farms have been involved in the development of better machines for growing sweet corn, sugar beets and onions.

The mechanical sweet corn harvester is the product of Sakata's design and the engineering expertise of FMC Corp. in Hoopston, Ill.

Sakata Farms and Eversman Manufacturing Co. of Denver cooperated to develop an electronic sugar beet thinner. Sakata and Eversman joined forces again to build the mechanical onion harvester, new on the market in the past year.

Figuring that blondes have more fun, Sakata is attempting
to grow a sweet corn with platinum blonde silk (rather than the ordinary “brunette” silk) for greater appeal on the grocers’ shelves.

In addition to more than 1,000 acres of sweet corn, Sakata grows 700 acres of sugar beets and 300 acres of onions. He owns only about one-third of his acreage; the remainder is leased. He is president of the National Sugarbeet Growers Federation and in 1970 was the fifth-highest sugar producer in Great Western Sugar Co.’s territory.

Bob Sakata was a high school student in California when he and thousands of other Japanese-Americans were shipped to relocation centers in 1942 after war broke out with Japan.

Sakata, sent to the camp in Topaz, Utah, was released to come to Brighton about Thanksgiving 1942. He finished high school in Brighton.

In 1944 Sakata and his older brother, Harry, purchased 40 acres near Brighton and grew a little of everything—cucumbers, peppers, lettuce, onions, potatoes. A few years later the Sakatas were jolted with the first of an incredible series of tragedies.

In 1950 Bob was seriously injured in an auto accident which killed his father. Bob still wears a brace on one leg as a result of that wreck.

Two years later Bob was critically burned when a gasoline drum exploded as he was using an acetylene torch a short distance away. Harry saved Bob’s life by smothering the flames with a quilt but Bob wasn’t expected to live, much less walk or work again. He did both.

In 1954 physicians operating on Harry for appendicitis discovered he had cancer. He died just before Christmas in 1955.

That left Bob alone with 160 acres of truck farm. He hired more help and quadrupled the size of his farm. It wasn’t long before his agricultural expertise was recognized.

In 1956 Bob was given the W. G. Skelly Agricultural Achievement Award. The same year the Colorado Jaycees named him the state’s outstanding young farmer. He went on to be selected one of four outstanding young farmers by the U.S. Jaycees.

The Denver Agricultural and Livestock Club gave its 1967 Dinnerbell Award to Sakata. Last May Sakata and his wife, Joanna, were among 70 agricultural leaders and their wives invited to “Salute to Agriculture” day at the White House to discuss farm policy with President Nixon.

Since the trials of the ‘50s, Sakata’s life has been mostly uphill. In recent years his only problems have been low prices for farm products, high prices for farm equipment, ulcers and three heart attacks.

Sakata says he is addicted—not just dedicated—to the farmers’ way of life. For him, hard work is fun.

Preparing corn, the Sakata way

During the harvest season the Sakata family regularly eats corn on the cob, and Mrs. Sakata freezes corn (cut off the cob) for year-round eating. The family includes son Robert, 14, and daughters Vicki Lynn, 11, and Lani Lee, 7.

Here’s how Mrs. Sakata prepares sweet corn:

Boiled Corn on the Cob

Wash the corn clean but leave the inside layer or two of husks attached to the ear. Place the ears in cold water, turn on the heat and let the water (salted) come to a boil. Shut the heat off as soon as the water boils, then leave the ears in the hot water until you are ready to eat.

Grilled Corn on the Cob

Remove the outside husks, leaving the inside layer still attached. Then remove the silk. Soak the corn for 30 minutes in cold water. Butter and salt the ear inside the layer of husks and wrap in foil. Place on barbecue grill.

Frozen Corn

Remove all husks and silk, wash the corn. Cut the kernels off the cob and put directly into a freezer bag. Add one-fourth to one-half cup of water per quart bag of corn. Freeze the corn. Do not cook first. To serve later, thaw and cook the corn in its own water, butter and season. Do not add more water when cooking.