

COUNTY GETS ARMY TRUCKS

WILL BE USED FOR MAINTENANCE OF STATE HIGHWAYS IN THE COUNTY.

The board of county commissioners of Griggs county have secured four two-ton army trucks which are to be used for road maintenance within the county. The commissioners met in special session Tuesday, to hear the report of Commissioner Hazard, who was at Bismarck recently to contract for the trucks, and to authorize the advertising of bids for dump bodies.

Construction of the state highway east and west through the county will be completed this summer. When that is finished the north and south road is to be built. The commissioners have appropriated \$24000 to be expended on this stretch of road through the county, from the Barnes county line to the Nelson county line, passing through Binford.

In the plans for maintenance this year dependence is placed upon the motor trucks. One motor truck will be assigned to each 20 miles under maintenance. In each county or perhaps in each commissioner district one contract will be awarded for cutting weeds, all other maintenance work will be performed by or with the motor truck.

Having a section of about 20 miles to care for each truck can make a round trip with a drag in a day. It is intended to equip each truck with a drag, that will cover at least one-half of the road between shoulders.

Dragging, it is estimated, will require an average of twenty days

of each truck's time. Other maintenance, surface repair, care of drainage and care of roadside, will probably require an additional 25 days of each truck's time.

Using the trucks in this way, having comparatively long sections and so comparatively few working units, having these working units always available at short notice for critical maintenance or emergency repair, and having sufficient funds for supervision it is believed that with this system an organization and a degree of efficiency can be developed that will solve the maintenance problem, which after all is not so much a problem of method as of promptitude and thoroughness of execution.

It would of course be difficult to develop economy and efficiency in an organization that functioned only 45 days in the year, and so it has been planned to arrange so that—when not occupied with maintenance—the trucks will busy themselves surfacing roads that have been surfaced with Federal and State aid.

In this way Federal aid may be secured to reimburse the county in such amount that the total net cost of truck operation will be comparatively light. The program will furnish efficient maintenance at reasonable cost and in addition will furnish, each year, a considerable mileage of gravel or selected material surfacing with very little increased expenditure of county funds.

Hail Warrants Called In

Registered hail warrants for 11 counties were called in Monday, by Obert Olson, state treasurer. This county is affected by the call and has warrants for \$124,986.

Ford for sale. In good running order.—Herman Osen.