

# Agriculture

(Continued)

vertised bids, the contracting firm of Hunter and Lippman agreed to build an insectary for \$18,906, and was awarded the contract.

County Architect Carl I. Muck had estimated the cost at \$23,000 at least.

Lady-bug beetles are propagated on potato sprouts and finally turned loose among the citrus fruits to combat the predatory mealy-bug. The lady-bugs easily keep these orchard pests under control. To the County, the cost of raising lady-bug beetles is approximately one-half a cent per bug, and at this price the bugs are sold to private orchard owners.

## Sawdust Packing

Three Kern County shipping firms, in the custom of shipping grapes of inferior quality, packed in sawdust, were abruptly restrained last month by State Agricultural Commissioner L. A. Burch. Reason: Burch understood that under the provisions of the State Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act it was unlawful to ship grapes of inferior quality, packed in sawdust. (News Review, Sept. 2-3)

Non-pleased, the three firms, S. A. Lines, Federal Fruit Distributors, and Mid-State Horticultural Association, took out injunctions against the State to prevent stopping their shipping activities. After a period of wrangling between the State and the shipping companies, S. S. Rodgers, chief of the Bureau of Fruit and Vegetable Standardization of the State Department of Agriculture, announced last week that sawdust grapes (inferior or not) will be inspected by the State on the same basis as any other

grapes. The decision came as a direct result of the shipping companies' injunctions, obtained in the Fresno Superior Court restraining the Department of Agriculture from enforcing the extra standard quality test for sawdust packed grapes. The new law was held unconstitutional.

Heretofore sawdust and similar packs were restricted to grapes of fancy quality, and to virtually only one variety, the Emperor.

## Model Orchard

Agriculturally-minded is Abelardo Rodriguez, Governor of the Northern District of Lower California. He believes that the Lower California coast has a great agricultural value, wants to encourage fruit-growing there.

Last week Governor Rodriguez purchased nearly 7,000 fruit and ornamental trees for a proposed 300-acre fruit ranch, to be established along the Escondido coast. Purposes of the model orchard: to demonstrate the agricultural value of the Lower California coast; provide a summer home for the Governor.

## Oil

### Ventura Gas Plans

Governmental intervention to stop natural gas wastage came to a head last week at Ventura. Threats had been festering for some time. Last week State Oil and Gas Supervisor R. D. Bush issued an order limiting gas production in the Ventura Avenue field to 10,000 cubic feet in some wells, and 20,000 cubic feet in others. Greatly concerned were the oil companies, for it was generally agreed that the restricting would cut production fifty per cent.

Bush's order commanded that any wells which were exceeding the stipulated limit to shut down immediately. The supply of gas now going north from Ventura in a pipe-line to Santa Barbara was ordered discontinued on the ground efficiently served from the Elwood field. The gas now being piped to Los Angeles by three large pipe-lines will be allowed to continue, on the ground that pipe-line facilities in the Los Angeles basin cannot adequately supply the needs of the territory without an auxiliary supply from Ventura.

Bush's order was not accepted without dissent. From F. M. Kincaid, representing the Ralph J. Loyu interests, came the statement that Bush had no jurisdiction to issue such a decree. Said Kincaid: "We will demand our lessees, Shell and Associated oil companies, to disregard it in its entirety and notify them that compliance (with Bush's order) will be a direct breach of contractual regulation. We want no rights and give no consent."

### Inglewood Encroachers

Fortnight ago when the Blinn Company's well came in at Inglewood scores of other oil companies hurried to acquire drilling permits, land in the newly proved district. Beautiful homes in the residential districts were disregarded by the prospective oil drillers. They were eager to replace palatial dwellings with tall derricks, storage tanks, drilling machinery, pump holes. Inglewood residents last week saw the activities of the oil men, forsook ugly drilling equipment replacing so beautiful surroundings, were incensed. Therefore, headed by C. C. Griffin, prominent citizen, they moved to stop further granting of oil drilling permits which would result in encroaching of oil wells in the business district of Inglewood, and the district west of Hillcrest Avenue.

## Milestones

**Died.** Alonzo Burt, 80, formerly first vice-president of the central group of the Bell Telephone Company, died at his home in Los Angeles; to the post of Bishop of the Missionary District of Honolulu; at the annual meeting of the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church; at Atlantic City, New Jersey. (See People).

**Elected.** Reverend Harry Beal, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, Los Angeles; to the post of Bishop of the Missionary District of Honolulu; at the annual meeting of the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church; at Atlantic City, New Jersey. (See People).

**Resigned.** George W. Thomas, from the presidency of the Southern California Fair (Riverside). He will not accept the position should it be offered him again, but will remain as a director of the Fair.

**Promoted.** A. F. Munson, for the past year in the prohibition service in Los Angeles; to be director of the Federal Prohibition offices at San Diego, succeeding Frank Soule.

**Appointed.** James A. Guthrie, of San Bernardino; to be a supervisor for the Federal census-taking, next year, in San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono counties.

**Resigned.** Peter E. Binder, as mayor of El Segundo. Since 1920 he had been a member of the City Council and since 1924, mayor.

**Elected.** V. R. Bush, of Monrovia; to the commandment of the Monrovia American Legion Post. Also is he president of Monrovia's Rotary Club.

**Returned.** Earl Derr Biggers, novelist, ("Black Camel," "Seven Keys to Baldpate"); from a vacation in New England; to his home in Pasadena.

**Appointed.** Charles H. Toll, of Glendale; former president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce; as treasurer of the Metropolitan Water District. Well known in financial circles, he will handle funds to be used in bringing Colorado water to Los Angeles through an aqueduct costing \$200,000,000.

**Resigned.** J. David Larson, Long Beach; from the secretaryship of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce. Re-elected as president of the chamber last week was Irwin M. Stevens.

**Elected.** E. Snapper Ingram, of Los Angeles; as Chief Chemist of the American Legion; at the Louisville convention.

**Elected.** W. T. Lambert, Laguna Beach; editor of Laguna Beach's South Coast News; to the presidency of the Orange County Weekly Newspaper Publishers Association; at Brea. To the secretaryship was elected Frank Ross-paugh of Placentia.

**Will Retire.** Alfred Hertz, frequently called the "Father of the Hollywood Bowl"; as conductor of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra; next month, at San Francisco.

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## Miscellany

### Pinioned

Missing for five days while searching parties scoured the Ana River region. 62-year-old Mrs. Nettie Holdredge was last week found pinioned in a ravine crevice in the Upper Santa Ana Canyon, 20 miles from her Big Bear Valley home.

No explanation could Mrs. Holdredge give for having left her home. She declared she had merely gone for a walk, become lost, wandered aimlessly over the hills, drifted into the canyon country. She had eaten nothing since her departure from home; had spent the nights walking through the brush to keep warm, the days sleeping to regain her strength.

For more than 24 hours, Mrs. Holdredge was wedged in a fissure in the side of a canyon. Wanderers in the hills, she slipped, had fallen 100 feet before lodging in the crevice. So securely was she held that she could not move her body, not even enough to reach water trickling down the mountain side

two feet away. The missing woman had been accompanied by her dog. His barking annoyed her; she sent him home. His return to the Holdredge residence served as an incentive to searchers.

### Calsomine Alcohol

Painter Jack F. O'Day was last week assigned the job of calsomining a Los Angeles suburban drug store. Also he was assigned a considerable quantity of alcohol to mix with the calsomine. Instead, O'Day mixed it with his lunch, became intoxicated. In a hunch, he decided to quit work, went to his car, cranked it three times unsuccessfully. In drunken glee, O'Day decided he didn't want the car anyway, calmly touched a match to the upholstery. Then he crawled into the front seat and dozed off to sleep.

Great was the horror of womanly Mrs. R. E. Boone when she saw the blazing automobile; saw a man in the front seat. She called the police, who rescued and arrested O'Day, booked him on charges of intoxication and arson.

### Expelled

When Mary's little lamb followed her to school, the teacher didn't like it, but she didn't object very strenuously. When a stunk honored Santa Barbara High School with its presence one day last week, the protest was loud, prolonged, insistent.

The odiferous animal's visit, though brief, was accompanied by a stench so strong and persuasive that 25 students and instructors rallied to bring about its immediate expulsion.

Commercial instructor Frank Craft shot at the black and white striped animal, wounded it. Science Teacher Ruth Seely employed ether, effectively and expelled Visitor Skunk.

### Pelican Palate

Large, gregarious, fish-eating is the pelican; equipped by nature with a large pouch for fish storage. The more fish he has stored away, the happier is Mr. Pelican.

Very unhappy last week was "Big Bill," Ventura's pelican. He had no fish in his pouch; also Dr. W. E. Harrison had just amputated one of his flippers, previously shattered by gunshot. The Ventura Small Animal Hospital, where "Big Bill," so named because of the size of his beak, is confined, sent out an appeal for fish; asked Venturans to help fill the pelican's pouch, abate the giant bird's hunger.

"Big Bill," now convalescing, belongs the distinction of being the only one-winged pelican in captivity. Once well, he will become the mascot of the Feather Bill ranch.

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