

## SOUTHWEST WATER DISTRICT TO BE IN OPERATION BY JUNE, REPORTS INDICATE

Torrance Municipal Water district No. 1 will have its system in operation in the Watteria section of Torrance in June, according to estimates given by city officials.

Construction of water lines will start in April, it was said, while pipe probably will be available for the job in February.

For the \$150,000 which people of Southwest Torrance voted, they will get a 16,000-foot connection with Metropolitan Water District mains, extending from Oak st. along 101 highway to Hawthorne blvd. This 16,000-foot main will be 12 inches in diameter, and will be wrapped and coated steel pipe. In addition, they will get 6,400 feet of 4, 6 and 8 inch mains to serve the populated area of the community.

These mains, under plans of Taylor and Taylor, engineers, will be constructed as follows:

Hawthorne blvd. from m240th st. to 242nd st., 8-inch cast iron.

On 242nd st. from Hawthorne blvd. to Neece ave., 8-inch, cast iron.

Neece avenue south to the first alley, 8-inch cast iron.

East and south in the alley to Newton st. and the Quandt reservoir, 8-inch cast iron.

Neece to Ocean ave. in the alley, south of 242nd st., 8-inch cast iron.

Hawthorne blvd. to Ward st. on 24nd st., 4-inch, cast iron.

From alley between Neece and Hawthorne blvd. on 244th st. to Madison ave., 4-inch cast iron.

The balance of the system will utilize pipelines of the Quandt company, most of them three inches in size.

Funds for the actual development of the new Watteria Water system will total less than \$100,000, it was said.

Of the \$150,000 voted by the

people of the district last January, \$36,500 was allocated to buy the Quandt well and pipelines. An additional \$12,000 went to engineering fees, and several hundred dollars for attorney fees for checking the bond issue to the satisfaction of bond buyers.

With the remaining funds, such pipelines as can be laid will be installed, and the connection with Metropolitan mains will be made.

Future development must depend upon use of Quandt mains and revenue from the sale of water.

The Quandt well will be used for standby purposes, it was said, with the principal supply for the system coming from the Metropolitan district.

Shipments of pipe to Torrance for the system already have been started, according to Manager William Stanger, of the Torrance central and Watteria water systems.

Bids for the North Torrance system bonds of \$174,000 will be opened by the City Council on Jan. 7.

## County Having Trouble Getting Palmdale Port

The acquisition of the million dollar Palmdale airport by Los Angeles county hit a snag, it was admitted by Chief Administrative Officer Wayne Allen at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

The supervisors recently voted to provide \$100,000 to pay condemnation costs of the airport if the Army would condemn it.

Today it was revealed that any surplus war material would have to have the War Assets Administration approval for disposal. The WAA cannot condemn it unless it owns all the outstanding leases for the airport which at present it does not.

The leases are now owned by J. Gordon Hussey and the Palmdale Irrigation District.

The outstanding leases provide that the airport will fall into the hands of the original owners six months after the official end of World War II.

The supervisors instructed County Counsel Harold Kennedy to prepare legislation for the January session of the California State Legislature, which will grant the Board of Supervisors the authority to appropriate the money.

Army investigators have already stated that the Palmdale airport is the best airport in Los Angeles county. Since it is located on flat desert, the land is free of fog, which plagues other locations.



**LOUIE'S CHRISTMAS CARD** . . . The above reproduction of the humorous Christmas card sent by Louis Zamperini to many friends throughout the nation, depicts a scene from his and Capt. R. A. Phillips' "47 days on a life raft." The drawing made by a Navy buddy of Pete Zamperini, Ed Pranger, now a commercial artist living in Yakima, Wash., was completed shortly after Louis arrived home safe from his long imprisonment by the Japanese. Phillips is pictured at left enjoying a Book-of-the-Month Club report, leisurely commenting upon their situation while Zamperini fishes in the shark infested circle. A B-24 Liberator bomber, the type in which Louis and his pilot, Phillips, crashed into the sea, is shown surveying the pair's imposed holiday.

## Adoption Of Gregorian Calendar In 1752 Caused Loss Of 11 Days

When England changed New Year's day from March 25 to January 1 in 1752 and adopted the Gregorian calendar, thousands of Englishmen suffered a prolonged "lost weekend"—and it wasn't caused by an excess of holiday conviviality.

According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the change in the calendar made it necessary to wipe out 11 days of the year, which was done by declaring that the day after September 2 was September 14, not September 3. This brought England into step with the Catholic countries, which had adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1582.

Incidentally, George Washington was born "on February 22 (old style February 11)" according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

During the early Middle Ages, March 25 was considered the first day of the new year by most Christian peoples, but in Anglo-Saxon England, the Britanica points out, New Year's day fell on what is now Christmas—December 25. At the time of the Norman conquest of England, however, William the Conqueror ordered that the year should start on the first of January, possibly, it is believed, because his coronation was scheduled for that date.

Still later, England reverted to the custom observed by the rest of Christendom and began her year on the 25th of March, and that date remained the first of the legal and ecclesiastical year until 1752, when the calendar was adjusted to the Gregorian system, which is still in use today.

The ancient Egyptians, Phoenicians and Persians began their year at the autumnal equinox, Sept. 21, according to the Britannica, and until the fifth century before the birth of Christ, the Greeks regarded the winter solstice, Dec. 21, as the first day of the new year. The notion of celebrating New Year's day on January 1 was introduced by Caesar when he adopted the Julian calendar and postponed the Roman holiday of New Year's from Dec. 21 to Jan. 1.

Even today, New Year's is celebrated on a wide variety of different days. The beginning of the Jewish year, for instance, falls some time between Sept. 6 and Oct. 5, depending on the date of the beginning of the month of Tishri. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the new civil year for the Chinese begins "with the first day of that moon in the course of which the sun enters into the

sign of Zodiac, which corresponds with our sign Pisces." The sun enters Pisces about February 18.

The Mohammedans keep holy the first ten days of Moharran, the first month of their year, the Britannica reports, and in Siam the new year is celebrated for three days.

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## 'Rh Factor' Is Discussed By Health Officer

ROY O. GILBERT, M.D., Los Angeles County Health Officer

The Rh factor was discovered in 1940, when experts on blood typing were conducting animal experiments and found that the blood of the rhesus monkey contained a substance which was capable of clumping the red blood cells of most of the people they tested. The investigators named this substance the "Rh factor," in honor of the rhesus monkey. 85 percent of the white population possess this factor and are designated as Rh positive. The remaining 15 per cent are Rh negative.

A baby from an Rh positive father and Rh negative mother may inherit the Rh factor from the father. The Rh factor enters the blood stream of the mother stimulating the production of antibodies. Some of these antibodies recross the placental barrier and attack and destroy the baby's red blood cells, resulting in miscarriage, stillbirth, or erythroblastosis fetalis, a disease which simply means the abnormal destruction of red blood cells. Many deaths resulting from transfusions have also been caused through this same mechanism.

plus with the \$90,000,000 so-called "Christmas tree" fund voted in 1946.

"If the legislature is to meet the challenges it will face in 1947 for the benefit of all California, it will be cautious in considering the demands made on it. It will be loath to pass any measures which may mean increases in state general fund taxes in the near future. It will be diligent in conserving the state's reserves against the time when the present war-endangered boom will have abated. It will be moderate in all things during the 1947 session."

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## County Tries To Improve Feeding Conditions In School Cafeterias

L. H. ROTHBALER, R. S., Los Angeles County Health Department

An intensive campaign was recently conducted by the Los Angeles county health department, directed toward improving conditions in school cafeterias.

The Parent-Teacher association is credited with first introducing child feeding in schools some twenty to twenty-five years ago.

A joint committee of the American Medical association and the National P.T.A. is in agreement in that the school lunch must be an integral part of the educational program. Nutritional considerations and no profit should predominate. Emphasis should be placed on a wholesome rather than a merely "filling" diet. Slovenly or unsanitary handling of food is to be venemently avoided. Improper sanitation can nullify all other efforts. Such services should be under the control of the educational and health departments, regardless of the contributions from outside sources. People should be specifically trained to work in connection with school lunches.

In the past, services were donated by members of the Parent-Teacher associations. Usually experience in food handling was lacking. Facilities were totally inadequate. There was a considerable turnover of personnel. Considering what they had to work with and their lack of experience, they did a good job.

Today there is still considerable confusion in its operation. Five methods of management are in operation now, Parent-Teacher associations, the student body, school principal management, some privately operated on a lease arrangement, and many are under the supervision of the school board. This latter seems to guarantee the best overall efficient and satisfactory operation.

In Los Angeles county health department jurisdiction, there are more than 255 schools that have going cafeterias, feeding approximately 80,697 children daily. Many schools are housing their cafeterias in made-over classrooms, old bungalows, auditoriums and basements. Many of them lack adequate refrigeration, storage and many other facilities. However, obtaining experienced help, proper food handling, displaying of food and other related problems are slowly being solved. In many instances, considerable new equipment has been installed. Wherever this has been done, satisfactory sterilization of eating utensils and better sanitation

\*has been accomplished. Bacteria counts are frequently made of glasses, cups and silverware. Through recommendations, much effective work has been done in correcting careless dishwashing methods.

Talks to personnel on personal hygiene, fundamentals of bacteriology, proper handling, preparation and storage of food products, sanitization and storage of utensils, are also producing results.

## COURTESY NEEDED

Were all motorists as courteous as the wheel as they are in their normal social and business pursuits, there would be decidedly fewer accidents. Extension of the common courtesies to other motorists and pedestrians by drivers, will keep them freer from accidents.

## CHECK LIGHTS

Headlight adjustments, even in the best of cars, are not permanent. On rough pavements, the finest lamps may be thrown out of true. They must be checked periodically if the owner is interested in having adequate light.

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