

Hospital Cases

Patients admitted to the Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week included the following:
 Mrs. Gussie Bourne, 1453 W. 216th st.
 Oscar Hogberg, 21401 S. Vermont ave.
 Mrs. Grace Johns, 2240 247th st., Lomita.
 Willie Moore, 1933 257th st., Lomita.
 Mrs. Clara Smith, 1442 W. 220th st.

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BIG CORPORATIONS ASKED TO CURTAIL WATER IN NEW APPROACH TO BASIN PROBLEM

A new approach to the critical water situation of the West Basin area is seen in the lawsuit in Superior court by an Inglewood man, H. S. Colmer, real estate broker.

He filed a suit seeking to obtain priority for domestic users of water from underground sources in the West Basin area of Los Angeles county against 14 oil, chemical and industrial concerns.

Colmer contends that industrial water use has depleted the area roughly bounded on the north by Slauson ave., and on the south by the Orange county line and extending six to eight miles inland from the ocean.

He asked that industrial use be limited to an amount that will not interfere with domestic supplies.

The suit was directed against Standard of California, Texas, Tidewater, Union, Shell, Richfield, General, Fletcher and Chanslor-Canfield Oil companies; Columbia Steel Co., General Chemical Co., Johns-Manville Corp., Joshua Hendy Iron Works, Southern California Edison Co., and Stauffer Chemical Co.

Colmer's is the second suit filed in Superior court attacking the critical water shortage in the West Basin.

The first was by the City of Torrance, the California Water Service Co. and the Palos Verdes Water Co. against every ground water user throughout the West Basin.

It is seeking to determine in court the amount of water each well should produce, based upon requirements at the time of the filing of the lawsuit more than a year ago.

The court has been asked to fix the safe yield of wells, so that each year's supply will be replenished from normal sources, and for appointment of a referee to enforce the

court's findings. The case is similar to that one brought in the Raymond basin, Pasadena, many years ago.

To make up for the difference between the required supply and the safe yield, water would have to be imported. The only source, except for the City of Los Angeles, would be the Colorado river water, furnished by Metropolitan Water District. The City of Los Angeles, while belonging to Metropolitan, also has its Owens valley supply.

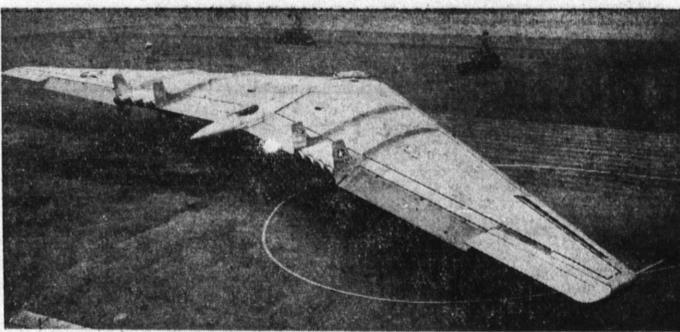
Torrance, while a plaintiff in the old suit, also would be subject to the court's findings and its own wells would have to be reduced in production and more Metropolitan water used. Torrance belongs to Metropolitan.

The State Division of Water Resources has been named to determine the safe yield, and the work now is under way. It will take years to settle the entire issue, it was said. There are some 900 private and public well owners defendant in the suit.

Both the old lawsuit and Colmer's new lawsuit allege that excess usage has brought about saline inroads causing the closing down of many wells and threatening the entire basin.

However, Colmer wants to hold the big corporations responsible rather than all well owners, private or public, according to his lawsuit.

In order to overcome the water shortage problem, the cities of the West Basin, ex-



This is the U.S. Air Force's mightiest bomber—the Northrop Flying Wing YB-49—as it rolled from its hangar at Northrop Aircraft, Inc., in Hawthorne, California. Eight jet engines, capable of developing 32,000 horsepower, will drive the boom-shaped craft through the air. Anticipated performance figures of the giant sky droid remain undisclosed. It is expected to operate at altitudes in excess of 30,000 feet. The latest of the Northrop Flying Wing planes, the YB-49 is the jet counterpart of the giant B-35 propeller driven bombers. Higher efficiency obtained in the Flying Wing design is made possible by elimination of drag-producing fuselage, tail assembly and protruding engine nacelles. All crew quarters, cargo space and power plants are housed wholly within the wing.

cept Colmer's Inglewood, Hawthorne and Gardena, now are forming a municipal water district to later join Metropolitan and be ready to "import" water when the court's decree is handed down.

Federal experts anticipate that ground water well production may be cut as much as 50 percent by the court order. All the cities involved, and also Lomita, depend upon ground water supply entirely.

Inglewood, Hawthorne and Gardena were among sections of the proposed district, which turned down the proposal to form the new municipal water district some months ago.

The second election has been proposed for the area where a favorable vote is assured.

The special election to form the West Basin Municipal Water District, which includes Lomita, will probably be held Nov. 25.

Petitions for the election, supported by 6,210 signatures throughout the district, were filed Sept. 26 with the County Clerk. Ten days were to be al-

lowed the registrar of voters for the purpose of validating signatures and determining if the petitions are sufficient.

An election cannot be held sooner than 40 days after the petitions are certified and received by the board.

In addition to Lomita, the new district includes, in main; Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, El Segundo, Lennox, Lawndale and Palos Verdes Hills.

Following formation of the district at the polls and election of directors for the district, another election will be called immediately to ask endorsement of the area's voters for annexation to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Robert E. Austin, chairman of the South Bay Water committee, sponsors of the proposed district, has estimated that the entire cost for formation and the right to buy Colorado river water to be about 50 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

This is no more than other

GAUCHOS HOST WASHINGTON 3 P.M. TODAY

The whistle marking the opening of the 1947 football season for Narbonne high school will be sounded this afternoon at 3 p. m. Coach Sheldon Loughborough's Gauchos varsity squares off against Bill Sloan's Washington High team on the Narbonne turf. For further details see back section of this newspaper.

areas have paid for the same privilege and the figure will be lower in future years as assessed values rise, he stated.

About 150 square miles and \$90,000,000 in assessed valuation are included in the proposed district.

Prediction of a landslide vote in favor of forming the district were made as the campaign got under way in Redondo Beach. The mayor of that city, Charles Wortham, heads the campaign for the entire district.

Vista Highlands Improvement Details Told

The second community meeting of Vista Highlands property owners, to discuss possible ways and means of cutting down the expense on the proposed improvements in the area, was held at the City Hall Friday, October 3 at 7:30 p. m. Jack E. Long served as chairman. L. F. Pack, from the offices of Harold A. Barnett, who determined the preliminary estimate, was present to answer questions regarding the work and "Improvement Act of 1911."

Following the general discussion, opportunity was provided for those present to study the map and reports on the proposed area, and to sign the final petition favoring the work. This petition may be signed by any property owner in the proposed improvement district, who favors negotiation toward procuring the work, whether they signed any previous petition or not, Long said in explaining a misinterpretation of the law.

D. A. Barnard, 2553 Sonoma ave., who owns property on "Vista" street, said he would be willing to dedicate to the city, the 250-foot strip of his land now being used as a part of the dirt road at the location in question if the people there wished their street to receive the proposed improvements. Those residents who were present stated their willingness to be included as a part of the assessment district, and inquired about getting their street dedicated to make this step possible.

The public hearing on the Vista Highlands work is slated for the City Council meeting of October 14 at the City Hall. Those who wish to add their signatures to the new petition are urged by the committee to call Torrance 55, 60-M. or 637, or to call at the Torrance Plumbing Shop on

CRIME RISE NOTED

A marked rise in the number of crimes occurred last year with an increase in every category of reportable offenses, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica 1947 Book of the Year. For instance, there was a 31.3 percent rise in robbery cases during the first six months of 1946 against the first six months of 1945.

Marcelina ave. It will be possible for those at the public hearing to give oral approval.

"To be certain your voice is heard and counted, we urge you to get your name on the petition," Long said in a message to residents of the area.

Charlie Mitchell



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HUNT'S Solid Pack TOMATOES
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KRAFT — 2-lb. loaf VELVEETA 85¢

NUCOA OLEO
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