

Merton Archer, National Supply Officer, Dies



MERTON T. ARCHER

Merton T. Archer, director of research for the National Supply Company, died at his home, 8023 W. 76th st., Los Angeles, Sunday Oct. 26.

Mr. Archer was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Oct. 16, 1882. He worked around Pittsburgh as a pattern maker and attended Carnegie Tech, graduating with one of the first classes. Archer worked as an inspector on the Panama Canal and later for the Lucey Oil Well Equipment Company. He came with the National Supply Company in 1921 as general field man in Houston, Texas, transferring to Toledo in 1923 as chief engineer. In 1933 he was promoted to director of research and came to the Torrance plant in 1940.

Archer was identified with the pioneering of many developments in the petroleum equipment manufacturing industry. During the war Archer was associated with the Army Ordnance Ferrous Metallurgical Advisory Board as a member of the subcommittee on gun forgings and cast armor. In 1945 he went to Chungking with the Donald Nelson mission as a consultant on metallurgical phases of China's war effort. He had recently returned from an extensive business trip to South America where he made a survey of oil field operations. He was a member of the Los Angeles Athletic Club, the American Petroleum Institute, the Nomads, the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, the American Society for Testing Materials, the American Society for Metals and other technical societies.

Archer is survived by his widow, Mrs. Beatrice Archer, his two daughters, Mrs. Frank Grasso and Miss Mary Archer, and his brother, John A. Archer, of the Grubbe Steel Company, Harrison, N. J.

Rosary was held at 8:00 p.m. Monday, Oct. 27 and a Requiem high mass at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29 at St. John's church, Los Angeles. Burial will be in St. Mary's cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pa., on Saturday Nov. 1.

QUICKER THAN RENO

A Newari woman of Nepal, India, can divorce herself at any moment by placing a betelnut under her husband's pillow, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

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CATS
and
DOGS

Irrigation In Fall Question Of Moisture

By Agricultural Extension Service, Los Angeles County
To irrigate or not to irrigate in fall is the question. The answer, of course, depends on when you irrigated last, how much water there is in the soil, and when it will rain. We won't guess at this last. Even the Weather Man doesn't know.

You do know when you irrigated last, however, and you can find out by digging a hole a couple of feet deep how dry the ground is. Remember this—your trees should not be made to suffer for water during these fall months. If they do not get enough water to carry their leaves until cold weather matures the leaves and forces them off, you are hurting the tree. Putting it differently, if you force the leaves off by letting the trees go dry, the trees will be weakened and next year's crop will be small. So, check up on the water supply, and if the soil looks dry, put on a little water.

Pruning
Is it time to prune my peach, apricot, plum, and fig tree now? The answer is "no." Wait until cold weather has forced off the leaves—wait until the "dormant" season. That will be December or January. Why? The answer again is leaves. The leaves that you cut off now are still making plant food. That plant food will help the tree next spring. The tree needs all it can get. Therefore, wait until the leaves have fallen off.

Moving Trees and Shrubs
Many people ask what's the best time to move trees in their yard. The answer is always that winter is the best time. During the winter even evergreen trees like citrus and avocado are growing less than at any other season.

When you move a plant that has been in the ground for a year or more, always cut the top back heavily. You must do this to balance the top with the root which you can move. Naturally, digging up the plant, a large part of the root system will stay in the ground—you can't get it all out. That root system was supplying the top with water. When you cut off part of the root system, naturally what remains can't supply as much water. Therefore, you reduce the top. Then next spring when the roots begin to grow they will be able to supply the smaller top.

Vet Centers To Aid Next Of Kin Of Returned Dead

A centralized plan of assistance to next of kin of war dead for Los Angeles county has been outlined by Arthur H. Tryon, director, Los Angeles Veterans Service Center, a Community Chest agency.

Under the plan, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars representatives at the Third and Broadway Veterans Service Center, will help in arranging for military honors for all war dead and advise dependent relatives of their rights and benefits.

The next of kin will receive help with funeral services, chaplains, buglers, ceremonial firing squads and religious services. Each veterans organization will have a full-time representative to make arrangements with local posts in the neighborhood of the next of kin. In addition, they will assist relatives in obtaining special benefits or allowances such as grave markers and burial expenses.

The Torrance Area Veterans Service Center will assist in every way possible in carrying out this program.



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