

Coast Barrier Protects Water

The county's \$6.5 million program to protect coastal water basins from sea water infiltration is proving a tremendous success, Supervisor Chairman Burton W. Chace declared today.

Now in the third of a five-year program, the Flood Control project already has raised fresh water levels in South Bay areas.

"Nearly 40 million gallons of water per day are being used to maintain the operational portion of the west coast barrier project in the Redondo Beach - Hermosa Beach area," Chace said. "Ninety-five per cent of this water moves inland and is reused as it performs its function of replenishing underground basins," he added.

CHACE SAID that six miles of the total 9 1/2 mile project — extending from Playa del Rey to Palos Verdes — are completed or under construction.

The project utilizes a series of water pipelines and "recharge wells" to build a mound, or barrier, keeping sea brine from infiltrating fresh water basins along the coast.

This takes on added importance, Chace explained, because Los Angeles County residents still depend on underground water sources for 50 per cent of daily water needs.

WORK completed thus far, Chace said, has raised water levels in the Hermosa Beach area and to the south toward Pacific Coast Highway.

Present low spots in the barrier at Pier Avenue and coast highway are expected to be raised to required elevations within a few months.

"Groundwater levels along Sepulveda Boulevard be-

tween Rosecrans Avenue and El Segundo Boulevard have risen nearly 15 feet near recharge operations," the Supervisor said.

Standard Oil Co. recently turned over six wells to the flood control district for use as temporary recharge wells through which fresh water can be pumped.

IT IS EXPECTED that all facilities south of the original Manhattan Beach barrier will be completed by January. Work currently is in progress on additional observation wells between Manhattan Beach and El Segundo Boulevards.

Supervisor Chace said the district expects to award contract for a chlorination station, pipeline and recharge well facilities to extend the barrier north from Manhattan Beach to El Segundo Boulevard.

Completion of this work is slated for October, 1966. The entire program, Chace said, is directed by Walter J. Wood, chief engineer of the Flood Control District.

Assembly Completes Action on Medicare

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District

As of the time I write this, it looks as though the last major item of our current special session, medicare, will clear the Senate in fairly short order, so that we will be able to adjourn by the last week in October. The Assembly bill containing the new program is being heard by one Senate committee right now, but must also clear a second group before going to the floor for final action.

During its last days in the Assembly, the measure underwent surgery twice, to use a medical phrase. Both times, significant amendments were made, but on neither occasion was the basic structure of the medicare program, about which I have previously written, changed very much.

Provision of health services for all recipients of welfare, and for the "medically indigent" as defined in the bill is still its primary purpose, and it still dove-tails with federal medicare as contained in the new social security law.

AS PREVIOUSLY pointed out, it was anticipated that the financing of the system would prove the greatest stumbling block to quick passage of the measure. As originally introduced, the bill would have required contri-

butions from county revenues on a basis which contained no effective ceiling on contributions from that source. Spokesmen for the counties fought vigorously to eliminate this lack. When the bill was heard in Assembly Ways and Means Committee, with their support it was amended to provide that the mandatory county contribution would be "phased out" by 1970. In that form, the measure reached the floor.

In a quick parliamentary move, the bill was sent back to the Assembly Social Welfare Committee. There the second operation was performed. The provision to phase out county contributions was removed. By agreement between the majority

and minority parties, a series of other provisions, many developed by the latter group, was amended into the bill. It was sent to the floor, and passed, 69 to 5.

AS IT PASSED the Assembly, the bill contained half a dozen important changes in this series of amendments. First, effective Jan. 1, 1967 in cases for which federal participation is available, health care would be provided to any individual suffering a catastrophic illness or accident, the uninsured cost of which exceeds 50 per cent of his average annual gross income. Second, a series of priorities would be set up, under which health care could be granted to specified low-income groups not on welfare, if funds permit.

Third, an eleven member Health Review and Program Council, appointed by the Governor, would be established to develop a comprehensive system of medical care for all medically indigent persons by 1975, and otherwise work for improvement of the law. Next, Coun-

ty financial participation in the costs would be established on two alternative bases; either by the county paying 90 per cent of the uncompensated costs in 1964-65 for health care to welfare recipients, and aged in county medical facilities, including social security medical payments, plus a specified sum adjusted to population growth; or by the county paying 100 per cent of all

such uncompensated costs up to its 1964-65 costs. And last, the bill would establish a Health Care Deposit Fund, to which would be credited all state appropriations and federal grants for medical care for welfare and low-income cases.

Other amendments from many sources are expected to be proposed in the Senate, but at last the bill has moved to the second house.

Aerona Notes Loss In Report

A loss of approximately \$200,000 will be noted in the Aerona Manufacturing Corporation's Report of Operations for the nine months ending Sept. 30, according to A. G. Handschumacher, board chairman and chief executive officer. A \$312,000 profit had

been reported for the first six months.

"The unfavorable nine month statement was significantly affected by previously reported technical difficulties and consequent production costs incurred since the beginning of the mine case

contract. In addition to a careful assessment of the mine case program, the figures include a preliminary reassessment, which will continue during the fourth quarter, relating to certain other major programs," Handschumacher said.

Warriors Schedule Concert

West High School's Choral Music Department will present a folk music concert at the school Monday, Nov. 8, at 8 p.m.

Members of the West High Choir, the advanced girls' Glee Club, the beginning Girls' Glee Club, and the Boys' Chorus will perform. As a special attraction, the West High Trio, which includes Cathy Nelson, Lynn Rhoads, and Jan Hayes, will sing. They will be accompanied by pianist Tom Somers.

The program will include a variety of folk songs, ranging from traditional to modern compositions. Faculty and student players will comprise the five-guitar accompaniment.

GOP Group Will Hear Joe Shell

Joe Shell, former GOP candidate for governor, will be the guest of the South Bay Republican League at its monthly meeting at Portofino Inn in Redondo Beach, at 7:30 tonight.

Shell will be the third high ranking Republican leader to appear before the group. He was preceded by former San Francisco mayor George Christopher, who recently announced his candidacy for the state's highest office, and former Gov. Goodwin J. Knight.

Shell, a former USC football hero, served in the State Assembly before campaigning in the 1962 primary. He lost to Richard Nixon.

Ironically, Laughlin Waters, earliest announced GOP gubernatorial candidate, is an officer of the Portofino Corp. which operates the beach resort where the monthly political rallies have already featured three other potential candidates.

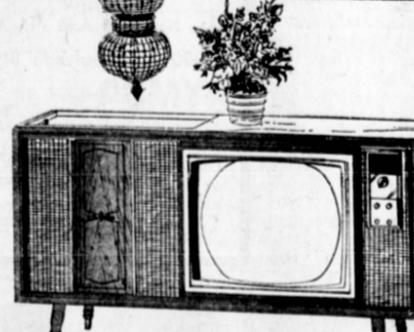
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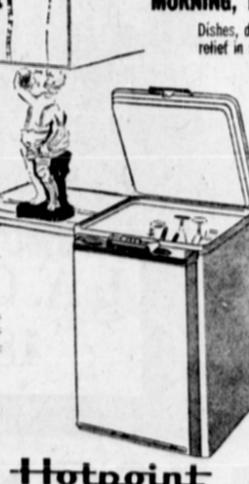
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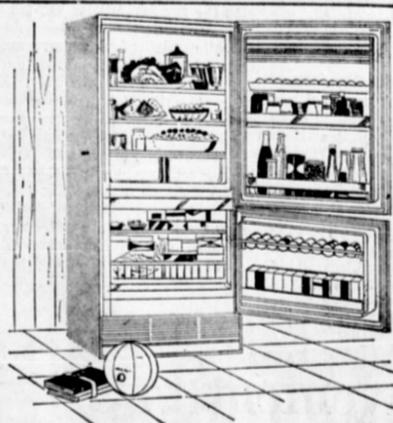
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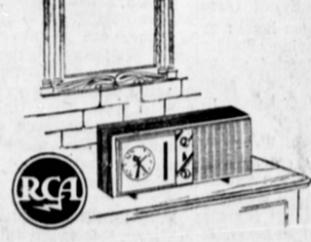
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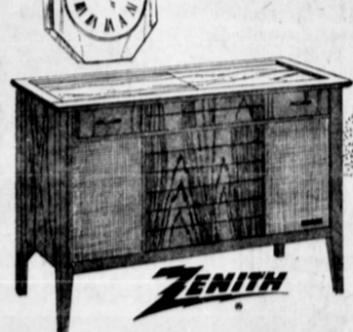
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