

County Is Winning War On Smog, Chace Reports

By BURTON W. CHACE
Supervisor Fourth District

It is difficult to convince many people that Los Angeles County is winning the war on smog, and who can blame anyone for doubting this claim on a day when the eye-stinging condition prevails? But experts believe that victory is not too far away, if—and it is a big if.

This county has taken many steps to combat smog, and its efforts have won praise from air pollution experts around the world. We have done everything within our power to rid this community of the problem.

This includes elimination of stationary sources of pollution, such as backyard incinerators and industrial devices, legislation, education, investigation, and enforcement.

NINETY PER CENT of the present smog problem is caused by emissions from automobiles and, unfortunately, the Board of Supervisors cannot control rules governing autos — this is a prerogative reserved for state-elected officials.

Industry in this county has spent \$60 million in the battle on smog. This includes everything from the purchase of low-sulfur, imported oils as fuel to installation of costly filter devices.

If—and this is the big if—the auto industry in Detroit would take the same initiative as the varied industries of this county, the problem could be eliminated.

Experts believe that if every technical breakthrough which is available to auto makers were incorporated in new cars today, smog could be eliminated within 10 years.

That belief, alone, shows the cause of the problem now that other air pollution sources have been capped.

COUNTY HEALTH Officer Dr. G. A. Heidebreder has issued his annual warning that mussels found along our coastline are unfit to eat from now until Oct. 31.

This yearly quarantine is necessary to protect the public from a highly toxic poison which is present in the shellfish during the summer and fall months. Mussels may be used as bait but must be labeled as unfit for human consumption if sold as bait.

Dr. Heidebreder also warned seafood enthusiasts about the preparation of clams during this season. Clams should be cleaned and washed thoroughly and all dark parts (where poison might concentrate) should be discarded. Only white meat should be eaten.

THE COUNTY'S library system completed one of the

busiest months in April, and circulation figures in Fourth District libraries remained very high.

There were 108,416 books checked out from the 13 libraries in this district, a record which reflected the over-all county trend. County-wide monthly circulation went over the million-book mark.

The busiest county library branch in my district was in Manhattan Beach, where

17,482 books were checked out during April. The nearby Manhattan Heights Library had a circulation figure of 7,928, so this means they're doing a lot of reading in Manhattan.

SUPERVISORS have approved an annual agreement which makes the swimming pools at Aviation, Redondo, and Mira Costa High Schools available for public swimming during the summer season.

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The County Parks and Recreation Department will operate the pools, and special sessions will be staged for lessons for —the handicapped, swimming competition, and junior frogman programs.

This program makes the South Bay Union High School District pools available to the public during the summer when they are used heavily.

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8.50x15	16.45	12.33	8.24	6.26		
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