

Californians Lead In Touring West's National Parks

National parks and monuments in the West have California motorists to thank for record-breaking attendance figures this year.

Evidence of the traveling instincts of California's motoring public was shown in statistics compiled by the California State Automobile Association. These revealed the cars bearing California license plates were, naturally, first in number in the four parks of California—Yosemite, Sequoia, General Grant and Lassen Volcanic.

Further than that, Californians led the parade of motorists to the Grand Canyon in Arizona and Zion and Bryce Canyon national parks in Utah. California cars were second only to Montanans at Yellowstone and Glacier national parks; second to Oregonians at Mt. Rainier; second to Coloradans at Mesa Verde national park, Colorado; third to Texans and New Mexicans at Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico.

Mining to Wining

Framed in Three Attractive Gardens, Poggi Winery is Ending 52nd Year

Founded by an Italian immigrant who came to this country as a boy of 16 and who was one of Southern California's first gold miners, the Poggi Winery is now completing its 52nd year and its third since prohibition's repeal. Located a hundred yards off the intersection of Vermont avenue and Lomita boulevards, the establishment, framed in a beautiful setting of gardens, has experienced a restoration those last three years under the supervision of Alexander Poggi, son of that Italian gold miner, and his nature-loving wife.

It is Mrs. Poggi who is responsible for the improvement of the setting and her gardens—there are three of them—can be classed as one of the show-places of the Harbor District. They have a history extending back to 1884 when Rafael Poggi purchased 200 acres for \$2.50 an acre and gave up his mining and cafe ventures to resume the family trade of wine-making. In 1927 when his son sold 20 acres to the county, the land now bristling with oil derricks and

Dellaqu's Not In Operation

This part of the Harbor District also contains another winery in addition to the Poggi place described in the adjoining article. But the Palos Verdes Winery, operated by John Dellaqu at South Normandie and Lomita boulevards, has not "pressed" for three years. Dellaqu operated the Poggi property for several years and has been located at his present place for nearly three years. Once a maker of all kinds of California wines, he obtained most of his grapes from the Cucamonga district. He is uncertain about resuming operations.

Recognized



The work of Eugene O'Neil, famed dramatist, in Seattle, Wash., where he had gone to seek peace and quiet for novel writing, was interrupted by the announcement that he had won the Nobel prize for literature. He is shown here with his wife.

Test Weir On Slough Okayed

Will Determine the Flow of Waste Water

striped with paved highways, brought him \$4,000 an acre.

Father Rafael, who died in 1922 in Los Angeles was a native of Genoa. By family custom he was the one selected to study for the priesthood but young Rafael was business-minded and took ship for the New World, landing in New York. Later he went to Mexico and by horse-back came up the Lower California coast, to Los Angeles, arriving there in 1850. Learning of the wealth to be found in the canyons back of Newhall, he engaged in gold mining.

Completing "Press" His placer operations must have been profitable but Rafael was still in quest of a business career. He came to Wilmington in 1865 and opened a restaurant. Then in 1884 he had an opportunity to buy the rolling hills that comprised the Poggi estate until his death, planted his gardens and vineyards.

His son, Alexander, took over the operation of the winery and the cultivation of the vines in 1911. Bit by bit portions of the land were sold until today 120 acres remain, 70 of it planted in grapes. Alexander Poggi remained on the home place until prohibition killed his livelihood, and then he leased it to a tenant.

At the present time, Poggi and one or two assistants are completing the 1936 "press" of some 20,000 gallons, produced from the Zinfadels, Burgundy, Black Hamburgs and Tokays that produce about two tons to the acre.

"This is not as much as six or seven tons produced in other localities in Southern California," Poggi said this week. "But we don't irrigate our grapes and for that reason we believe we make a better wine. For that reason our product finds a good market in the dry wine field of clarets, zinfadel and sauternes as a heavier wine for blending. We sell most of it to other bonded wineries, shipping ours in 50-gallon barrels or by tank trucks. We market some under the trade name Poggi Vista."

In grape season, Poggi employs between 15 or 20 men—pruning, cultivating and picking. When the harvest press is on, from the middle of September until the same period in November, it takes but one or two men to operate the winery and its five great redwood fermenting tanks, four of them holding 2,000 gallons and the smaller, an original one more than a half-century old, 1,500 gallons.

The wine remains in these vats but three days now instead of the 15 which was the previous schedule. Poggi says that a better color is obtained by the shorter period, this ripening in the six storage tanks, the largest two holding 5,471 gallons.

So much for the winery and its product. The Poggi estate now has eight oil wells operating on its undulating terrain under lease. The presence of the lovely gardens, one near the residence, another more formal in setting where Father Rafael planned to build his later home and whose excavation is now being transformed under Mrs. Poggi's direction into a sunken garden. The third contains a rustic arbor where, around a large barbecue pit and bordering a dance floor are located large tables for family gatherings.

Freshmen Gain in Hawaii HONOLULU (U.P.)—America's most westerly university, Hawaii, has a record-breaking freshman enrollment of 609 this year.

Permission to construct a weir in the Nigger Slough channel approximately one-half mile upstream from Avalon boulevard was granted the Union Oil Company this week by the board of supervisors, upon recommendation of flood control district engineers.

The weir is to have removable flashboards which are to be removed from the waterway during flood flows. The oil company is to be liable for any and all damages that may result from the ponding of the water by the weir to be installed.

Union Oil and Shell Oil discharge waste waters from their Dominguez Hills fields and the Dominguez refinery, respectively into Nigger Slough channel about one-half mile above Avalon boulevard, Chief Engineer C. H. Howell of the flood control district explained.

Installation of the weir will enable the company to determine whether this waste water is flowing back up the channel, as company engineers will make observations after the installation is made. Howell also said that flood control engineers were making a study of the flow in the channel at the present time, and the measurements taken at this weir would aid the district's study.

L. A. Share of Gas Fund Is Half-Million

Allocation of more than one-half million dollars of the county's share of gasoline tax funds was made available this week to the city of Los Angeles, following adoption of a resolution by the board of supervisors. The amount, \$523,204, is to come out of the 1936-37 gasoline tax funds apportioned to the county this year by the state.

Greater portion of the amount was taken from funds allocated to the Second and Third Supervisorial districts. The second district supervisor, Gordon L. McDonough, contributed \$215,000; Supervisor John Anson Ford of the third district, \$200,975; Supervisor Leland M. Ford of the fourth district, \$44,895; and Supervisor Roger W. Jessup of the fifth district, \$62,534. Streets in the Harbor district, West Los Angeles and San Fernando valley and Tujunga are among those to be benefited by the work, which is to be done by the maintenance forces of the city engineering division.

REPLY TO OFFER The city of Redondo Beach, in a cordial letter to the city council here Tuesday night, expressed its appreciation of the offers of sympathy and assistance following the tragic self-inflicted death of one of Redondo's police officers, Clarence L. Kipp.

EXPRESS THANKS A letter of appreciation for the use of the city courtroom for the monthly meeting held last Monday was addressed to the city council Tuesday night by the Torrance Coordinating Council.

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