

Air Pollution Board Halts \$9 Million Industry Plans

Use of industrial equipment valued in excess of nine million dollars was denied industry in February by the Los Angeles County Air Pollution Control District, officials reported yesterday.

Valuation of the denied equipment which amounted to \$9,968,300, was placed at more than double the value of other industrial equipment for which permits were approved by District engineers last month.

The industrial equipment approved during February was valued at \$4,231,000. Major items among the denied permits was construction of an oil-burning steam generating plant by

the Southern California Edison Co. The Edison company has recently pledged itself to spend \$1,750,000 during the next two years to control the pollutants from boiler stacks at its various power plants.

Rules Not Met
Control Officer Smith Griswold said District engineers denied industry the use of the proposed equipment when it failed to meet the strict standards of the District's rules and regulations.

"The denials by our engineers during February again emphasize the vital part that the permit system plays as an enforcement weapon in clean-

ing up our atmosphere," Griswold pointed out. "Truly the permit system is the 'big muscle' of the APCD."

The engineers received 473 applications during the month, approved 290 and denied 86. After studying plans, they issued authority to construct 210 projects and granted 225 permits to operate, after rigid field tests.

New Inspection High
The enforcement division of the District set a new mark in February by completing 3693 inspections, greatest number in any month since APCD was organized. It compares with 1639 in February of last year.

The inspectors issued 398 written notices of violations and as a result, 181 court cases were filed in the Municipal courts of the County. These courts completed 160 cases, with 147 defendants pleading guilty and being found guilty, while four defendants were acquitted and nine cases were dismissed.

Fines assessed by the court totaled \$4032 for the month, with \$3467 in fines being collected.

LAND IS NORTH
Of the entire land area of the world, 85 per cent lies north of the equator.

Gas Clothes Dryer is Pushing The Clothesline Out of Style

A great deal of formal en- lightment has been spread around Wall Street since the early Twenties. Beginning in the upsurge from the brief recession that followed World War I, the financial district has been invaded more and more by persons accustomed to finding answers in college texts. Today there's hardly a self-respecting brokerage house without a slide-rule economist. Some have squads of them.

Nevertheless old business superstitions cling, even as do superstitions about other things. The ominous proverb that is worrying a good many

people in Wall Street is the one that says: "When the coppers go by, the parade is over." Stocks of the big copper refining and fabricating companies, according to this, always make their highs or lows at the very ends of the bull or bear markets.

This isn't entirely groundless. Construction is the cyclical element in a boom or bust. Copper goes into a house or an office building, or into a plant in the form of electric motors, just as the structure is finished. Hence it is the last material to feel a sudden fall in demand; it's also the last to respond to a revival.

VANISHING CLOTHES LINES—Apparently the washing line is doomed to follow the washboard into oblivion. Just as the washing machine rubbed the old board out of the home laundry scene, so the clothes dryer will brush away the ugly web of stretched rope from America's backyards.

The way the wind is blowing can be gauged from the all-time sales record hung up last year by the manufacturers of gas clothes dryers, who had to produce 305,000 units to meet the demand from tired home laundresses.

The Gas Appliance Manufacturers Assn., which gathers such statistics, says the clothes drying business is picking up all the time. "The 1955 volume was five times the 1950 total, and 1956 is expected to show a spectacular new peak. Shipments so far are running at nearly double last year's rate, a good indication that the market is nowhere near saturation."

THINGS TO COME—Two new plastic slide-viewers offer a choice of close-up with one eye or normal reading distance with both. Imported from London is a battery-operated toy electric fan. Families lacking amenable grandparents may find a baby's travel kit useful in vacation time. It contains oil, cream, powder, soap, lotion and cotton wads. The customer who wanders into the hardware store with one rusty bolt to match can now do his own matching from a new display case, instead of tying up a clerk. For your electric train set, you can now get an automatic car washer with brushes and spray, the kind you may see in a railroad yard.

TEACHING TRANSPORT—A new application of classroom techniques to advance understanding of a national issue is just now taking shape under the sponsorship of the Eastern Railroad Presidents' Conference. Some 70 teams of teachers have been formed by the Conference's community rela-

tions committee in 20 Eastern cities to spread information to leaders of business, industry and agriculture about President Eisenhower's Cabinet Committee Report on Transport Policy.

The Conference equips its aspirants with all the tools—strip films, easel-type presentations, factual statements and question-and-answer sequences—to stimulate lively discussion of the Report's recommendations for modernizing national transportation policy.

Following the town meeting technique, each program has a three-man team of railroaders meeting with members of an organization to present a visual analysis of the Cabinet Report, with discussion following.

OWLS TO ATHENS NEXT—First soybeans grown commercially in this country grew out of experiments with seed imported from Manchuria, where the Japanese fostered the industry and finally grabbed the country.

Now, along with the corn, this country ships to Neocastile, it is shipping soybeans to Japan—22 million tons last year.

Nippon was the beneficiary of one of the twists of U.S. farm policy. Soybeans must compete in the domestic market for livestock feed with oilseeded, a by-product of the profitably supported cotton fiber crop. So there's a glut of soybean meal in the home market, and export prices, looked good to soybean holders, West Germany and the Netherlands were also big buyers.

BITS O' BUSINESS—Machinery orders rose during February to their highest level since last September, when the best month since the Korean war began. Paper production in the Feb. 25 week was at 101 per cent of theoretical capacity. Department store sales are running 4 per cent above last year's level, says the Federal Reserve Board. Farm receipts in January were \$2.3 billion, 6 per cent below the 1955 January mark.

Retirement Income Credits Revenue Director Explains

The provision allowing a substantial Federal income tax credit for retirement income, which was allowable for the first time in 1954, is misunderstood by large numbers of taxpayers, according to Robert A. Riddell, district director of Internal Revenue for Southern California.

"The person who has retirement income, who is still employed, who has earned income of \$2100 or more during 1955, and who is under 70 years of age, has no retirement income credit under any conditions," says Mr. Riddell; and then explains the very generous new provision as follows:

In the case of a person under 65 years of age, retirement income includes only amounts received under a public retirement system. The definition of retirement income changes materially for persons 65 years of age or older, and includes income from any type of pension or annuity, from interest, dividends and gross amounts received as rent.

Credit Limited
Regardless of the amount of defined retirement income that an individual may have, not more than \$1200 of such income may be subject to the retirement income credit. However, in the case of a husband and wife, both of whom have retirement income, either under community property laws or otherwise, in which case, in filing a joint return, each will be entitled to the credit.

The amount of retirement income that will be used in determining the credit will be the actual retirement income received, if the total is less than \$1200; or \$1200, reduced by one or all of three items:

- (1) Earned income received during the taxable year in excess of \$900.
- (2) Amounts received during the taxable year under the Social Security or Railroad Retirement Acts.
- (3) Certain other amounts received as pension or annuity and not included in income by law.

The credit allowed by this new law is 20 per cent of the retirement income subject to the credit, with a maximum credit of \$240 for each individual. This credit is applied directly to the tax liability of the individual, thus, in many cases, reducing tax liability materially.

To qualify for the credit, in addition to having the necessary retirement income as defined above, an individual must have received in excess of \$600 earned income in each of any ten years preceding the year in which he claims the credit. Earned income includes wages, salaries or professional fees, and other amounts received for personal services actually rendered. Widows or widowers of a spouse who qualified as to this prior earnings requirement are con-

sidered as also qualified in this particular.

The retirement income credit is claimed by completing Schedule K on the fourth page of the Federal income tax return Form 1040. Individuals who have difficulty in preparing this schedule may receive advice on the matter by visiting any field office of the Internal Revenue Service.

Service Tax Tips Newcomers To State Must File

Many thousands of newcomers who moved into California during 1955 may be liable to file California income tax returns, Robert C. Kirkwood, chairman of the Franchise Tax Board, said this week.

"New residents of California are taxed on their entire income even though part of their income may be derived from another state," he declared. "Non-residents are taxed on income derived from within California."

The Tax Board chairman said that "income derived from within this State," includes salaries or wages earned for services performed in California, income derived from a business conducted in California, and income derived from tangible property located within this State.

Returns for 1955 must be filed by single individuals whose net income was \$2000 or more, and by married couples whose net income was \$3500 or more.

"Some newcomers to California may be uncertain of their resident or income tax status," Kirkwood said. "In that case, they should call at the local office of the Franchise Tax Board, Room 206, State Building, First and Broadway, Los Angeles, for assistance, or write to headquarters office, 1020 N. St. Sacramento 14, Calif."

Signs Asked for Area
Safety of school children in the area, was the recommendation given last week by County Supervisor Burton W. Chase for crosswalks with advance warning markings along De la Brea St. at the south line of 235th St.

Chase said that establishing the crosswalks and the markings will allow for the protection of school children pedestrians crossing at this intersection.

In order to provide sufficient visibility at the crosswalk approach, the supervisor recommended in the County Engineering Dept. that red curb markings be placed on the east side of De la Brea St. for a distance of 20 feet south of the intersection of 235th St.

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