

Food for Future Millions Makes Water Important

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 88th District

Food for future millions of additional Californians is a matter of very real concern to your Legislature. A basic element in the food problem is water, without which our \$7.5 billion a year agricultural enterprise could not exist.

An ever increasing percentage of our producing areas depend on water brought to them from distant watersheds through miles of canals, or supplied by an estimated 60,000 wells. Yet, despite the fact that irrigation is one of the oldest arts known to man, there are many questions about the most efficient methods of irrigation to which we do not now have the answers.

THE "WATER SPANNE" fact has been well brought out in a thorough study of the need for a western states laboratory to investigate irrigation, drainage and related soil problems as part of a national soil and water conservation research program. Prepared for the water subcommittee of the Assembly on conservation, planning and public works, this report was used as the basis for a recent joint hearing on the proposal by the subcommittee and a "working group" from the U. S. department of agriculture.

Two bills calling for construction of four such regional laboratories in the country have been introduced in Congress, one by a member of the California delegation. In 1957 your Legislature adopted a resolution calling for the location of one of the laboratories at Davis and agreeing to furnish the necessary land. A California Soil and Water Research Facility Committee, including representatives from both the Senate and Assembly, from our Congressional delegation, from the principal organizations interested in agriculture, irrigation and conservation, from state and local government and from educational and research institutions, was later set up to work actively to bring one of the laboratories to California.

FEW OUTSIDE OF members of such specially informed groups are probably aware of the importance of irrigation in our total California water picture. The report reveals that out of our developed water supply of 21 million acre feet annually, 90 percent, or 19 million acre feet are used for irrigation, leaving only two million for all domestic and industrial needs. Even when the California Master Water Plan is completed and the expected 51 million acre feet is realized, irrigation will still take 60 percent.

The report emphasizes the need for early establishment of a regional laboratory. "More water is wasted in the process of applying water to the land than remains to be developed from known potential water resources," it warns. It calls attention to the fact that with present knowledge and under existing practices 65 to 70 percent of water diverted for irrigation is lost through evaporation, seepage and run-off and fails to reach the plant roots for which it is intended.

ALMOST AS MUCH land is being lost because of poor drainage as is being reclaimed by new water resources, it declares. These are only typical of the research problems the laboratory could attack, it concludes.

The subcommittee report demonstrates that your Legislature is not overlooking the importance of conservation of existing water and soil resources in its continuing review of California's basic water problems.

Expectant Mothers' Class Still Open

Although the second session of the new series of expectant mothers' classes is scheduled for today at 1 p. m., prospective mothers may still register. Dr. R. A. Kogan, Torrance district health officer, said. There is no registration or other fee and no textbooks to purchase as the course is an educational service of Los Angeles County Health Department.

Dr. Bernum to Offer 'Spiritual Road Map'

Dr. Earl D. Bernum, minister of the Redondo-Torrance Church of Religious Science, will deliver a sermon at worship services Sunday on the topic, "My Spiritual Road Map," second in the series of Sunday sermons dealing with the individual's "Journey on Life's Path."

Sunday services are coordinated by subject matter in all departments of the church for all ages.

Safeway Stores To Offer Music Classics Library

A 16-album library of the world's greatest classical music is now available at supermarket prices. The first album of fine classical music goes on sale today at Torrance area Safeway stores, according to Frank Glasgow, merchandise manager.

The budget-priced Philharmonic Family Library of Great Music will be available for the next four months with a new album on sale each week, Glasgow announced.

The library will present on long-playing, high fidelity records the masterworks of 27 composers played by 10 of the world's leading orchestras. It contains a total of 44 works, with selections including Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," Beethoven's "Piano Concerto No. 5," Liszt's "Liebestraum," and a wide range of symphonies, overtures, and operatic pieces, according to Glasgow.

Informative notes about each composition and a general music appreciation article will accompany each album he pointed out.

"We are able to bring these fine works to our customers at supermarket prices, due to the generosity of the artists in waiving their royalties," Glasgow said. "The first album will sell for 49 cents, the remainder for \$1.49 each."

Students Get Sneak Preview Of New School

The 490 students who will move into Jefferson School, 21717 Talisman St., Monday will get a sneak preview of their new school home tomorrow.

Torrance's 26th elementary school, just completed, will take a tour of the plant on Friday, carrying their personal supplies along with them.

Principal George Marich, former Madrona principal, will head the 24-member teaching staff.

Students include 331 regular pupils and 42 handicapped youngsters now attending classes at Meadow Park, 90 kindergarteners now at Calle Mayor Schools will, have no double sessions, while the fourth grade will begin full day sessions at Perry.

With few exceptions, children will continue with the same class and teacher they started with in September.

All Jefferson children will be within walking distance of the school, which serves the area bounded by Hawthorne, Sepul-

veda, Anza, and Torrance Blvd.

In addition to its 18 classrooms and two kindergarten rooms, the plant will include administration, shop and home-making, and multipurpose buildings.

Post-Halloween Dance
A post-Halloween dance will be held by the St. Philomena Men's Council at 21900 S. Main St. from 8 p. m. to midnight tomorrow evening. Door prizes and refreshments will be featured.



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