

Bond Sale Authorized By Board

County Flood Control District has been authorized to sell an additional \$45 million in 1964 storm drain bonds, Supervisor Burton W. Chace reported today.

Bids are slated to be opened at the Oct. 1 meeting of the supervisors, Chace said.

Proceeds from the sale, when added to present cash and investment balances remaining from previous offerings, will finance construction work on the program until the spring of 1969.

Chace said this will be the ninth sale of 1964 bonds with \$110,050,000 sold in eight previous sales. A total of \$275 million were provided for construction of 267 storm drainage systems in various county areas, with Chace added.

Civil Defense Test Scheduled

Civil defense warning sirens of the city and county of Los Angeles will be sounded Friday at 10 a.m. in the monthly test held on the last Friday of the month, announced Sheriff Peter J. Pitches.



EVERYBODY BACK IN THE POOL... A four-year-old Egyptian gander, a native of the Nile River basin, brings up the protective rear as Mallard chicks follow their mother in the waterfowl pool at Marineland of the Pacific. The gander adopted the newly hatched brood after the father took off.

Egyptian Gander Adopts Mallard Ducks

Nature has a way of preserving its own. But sometimes Mother Nature gets help from the strangest places.

A four-year-old cinnamon-colored Egyptian gander, for example, has made himself the adopted guardian and protector of 11 mallard duck chicks hatched 10 days ago in the large waterfowl garden enclosure at Marineland of the Pacific.

And there's plenty of birds in the enclosure to protect the chicks from.

PENGUINS AND white pelicans, black swans and lamings — all would either destroy or eat the tiny chicks, if the six-pound Egyptian male goose were not on his webbed toes all the time.

Keeper Eddie Asper says the gander lost his mate a year ago and since then has not shown much interest in the other birds.

On Aug. 10, however, a mallard duck laid 12 eggs and 11 of them hatched. The chicks were small enough to hold in the palm of your hand. The mallard drake, after watching the blessed event, wandered off to greener pastures.

IMMEDIATELY the pelicans, with a nine-foot wing span and weighing between 35 and 40 pounds, moved in for the feast. Keeper Asper normally removes all chicks hatched in the enclosure as soon as they're born and raises them under more protective surroundings.

But when he went to collect the ducks, the Egyptian gander challenged him. He drove the pelicans off. And when the penguins, swimming under water, nosed around, the gander shot like an arrow into the pool and discouraged them from getting too close.

NOW THE chicks are having a ball in the Marineland pool, moving in and out of the water whenever they please. And Mama mallard sits with adoring eyes and watches the tough gander patrol the area.

Who'd ever think a duck from Southern California would get parental help from a gander from the Nile River?

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