

1880 to 1980

CARLSBAD WATER HISTORY.

"Water is the staff of life."

The origin of this quotation is lost in the night of antiquity for men have fought and died over the control of water since the dawn of history. Animals will fight over water too, the stronger driving away the weaker ones. Domesticated cattle and wild animals learn to go to water at night where they live in hot, desert regions and cattle are known to go to water every other night on the desert ranges in the winter time when the days are cool and the good feed is far away from the water.

The determination to control water is forever, whether spring, water hole, river, lake or the ocean. Every living thing must have water to live, this we know, but listen to this message in scientific language.

"The oceans of the earth cradled the evolution of life on this planet and even those organisms which have evolved to crawl and walk upon the land have not left the salt water environment behind. In humans and other mammals, each cell is bathed by body fluids which mimic the primeval seas. Inside each cell, the complex array of self-replicating macromolecules, salts and metabolites are suspended in the biological solvent.....water. Water, makes up 70 to 90 percent of the mass of a living cell and is second only to oxygen in its essential contribution to life processes."**

Carlsbad's water problems began in the early 1880-s with the land boom caused by the coming of the railroad. Each farmer cleared his government land of brush and then dug a well for livestock and domestic use. Water could be found anywhere in the flat part of the town in twenty feet or less, all that was needed was a pick and shovel and the

** (See THE WATER OF LIFE, N.Y. ACADEMY SCIENCE, Jan. 1981

will to work. The soil was deep with quicksand below so that it was necessary to curb the well to keep the walls from falling in. The curb or well casing was constructed of redwood lumber because it would not rot and the usual size was five feet square, a reasonable size to work in with pick and shovel....the first eight feet being dug without curb the dirt being thrown out by shovel. The curb was made of 4 x 4 posts in the corners and boxed in with 1 x 12 inch boards with cracks left for the water to come into the well. Once the curb was started down the well, boards were added at the top as needed.

The next step was to make a well bucket out of the half of an oak barrel with some blacksmith work needed to make the iron bail for the bucket. Then a three legged tower about 15 feet high was raised over the well, a pulley hung at the top and another fastened to the bottom of one of the legs. A long rope was run through the pullies and attached to the bucket with the other end attached to a horse's singletree to pull up the bucket when it was loaded with dirt. To keep the horse moving in a straight line without a driver, a post was set some little distance from the well and a wire strung from the post to the derrick. The horse's bit was snapped to the wire and the horse soon learned to start, stop and back up at the proper command. The dump man stationed at the top of the well dumped the bucket and took turns with the man down the well doing the digging. I helped Irwin Kelly dig such a well in 1924 by this method. We reached a depth of 43 feet where the local water witch said we would strike water but the digging was dry and hard.

The man at the bottom had something to worry about when the 300 pounds of dirt and bucket started out of the well....suppose the rope should break or the horse back up suddenly with a bumble bee in his ear.

For this reason one squeezed into a corner of the well and kept his head under one of the corner posts.

Carlsbad's famous mineral well, now owned by Kay and Chris Christensen, was a drilled well some 423 feet deep, according to County records. The well advertised healing properties of this wells' mineral waters was one of the main attractions for people coming to Carlsbad during the 1880 boom and it gave the town its name, after Karlsbad, Bavaria, where the mineral waters tested the same.

The land boom burst in 1888 and the few citizens who managed to stay were dry land farmers who were more interested in rainfall than in mineral water, neither of which was in sufficient abundance. The town of Carlsbad as laid out, only extended as far east as highland street and only one house, the Culver House, was then built on that street. Clint Culver was the near-do-well son of a wealthy New England family who were apparently glad to support him in California. Clint was rich enough to afford a drilled well, water tank, tower and windmill. The windmill and tank tower is long-gone but the old house still stands at the corner of Oak and Highland. Of late years it has been known as the Maltby House, a Mrs Maltby having lived there for many years.

Water was always a problem for the early settlers in San Diego County for many of them were forced to live on land where it was not possible to get water in a shallow dug well or a deep drilled well. These people had to resort to cisterns catching rainwater off their roofs or haul water from some nearby spring or neighbor's well. W. W. Borden was one of these. He moved his family from San Marcos, where he had lived on a hilltop he called Plain Truth Hill and where he published a newspaper called The Plain Truth.

Mrs. Borden, formaly Minnie Kelly, had inherited Lot "J" of the

Rancho Agua Hedionda but Webster, her husband, liked the view from high places so he built their house on the highest point on their property....Borden Hill, it was called, when he could have built down on the flat land where water was known to be available. Lot "J" contained about 1000 acres. W. W. Borden was the poetic-esthetic type and so was the butt of much ridicule by those practical farmers and ranchers who could see no value in a distant view. Times have changed!

W. W. Borden dug three cisterns, one under the kitchen, one beside the house and another by the barn. But with all this storage, some 22,000 gallons.....when it rained, there wasn't near enough water for the livestock and a family of ten children. So it fell to the older boys to haul water in barrels from a little spring about a half mile down the Spring Canyon.

The need for water in this semi-desert produced many an inventor, for "necessity is the mother of invention" we are told, and so all manner of home made drilling rigs were concocted.

Where to dig for water was also important and this produced a welter of water witches.....some male and some female. Sammey, one of the older Borden boys, proved to be a very successful water witch. He started out using a forked willow switch but later discarded the stick and simply walked about with his hands clasped behind his back and waited until his chin and neck muscles began to tremble; then he knew he had reached the edge of an underground stream, and when his chin ceased to tremble, he had crossed over the stream. Other witches I have known were right about half the time but Sammey never missed, so far as I can remember. He located water in the most unlikely places and told us we wouldn't find water where we thought we would.

Forest Borden, a younger brother, was a natural-born inventor like his father. He built a one man well rig out of scrap pipe and an old 3½ hp Briggs-Stratton engine and drilled a well with it over 300 feet deep just east of El Camino Real on Chestnut.....where he was developing the Borden Airport. Sammy told him there would only be enough water for one family, where to dig and how deep and again Sammy was right. The water was vile stuff but all that was needed.

Percy Watson, was another well driller, water witch and inventor of the depression days. He lived in San Luis Rey valley and was a member of the pioneer Jonathan Watson family that came to the Valley in about 1865. Percy Watson was a second generation pioneer and retained the pioneer ability to "make do"with whatever things he had. He built a well rig on the back end of an old farm wagon that was at least 70 years old and had axles so badly worn that the wheels wobbled something fierce. Percy solved this problem with bullhide shims which he inserted between the hub and the axle along with a little greese. He built a lay-down tower about 15 feet high on the back of the wagon and mounted an old one cylinder 5 hp engine on the wagon for power. This old engine had two heavy flywheels and probably weighed about 500 pounds. This was a churn-drill rig, meaning that one churned the drill up and down to do the digging. This motion he accomplished with an old ship's capstan keyed onto the end of the engine axle. Using an old, soft, 1½ inch rope, he would throw a couple of turns around the capstan and pull tight to lift the drill or well bucket and then suddenly slack the rope and let the drill or bucket drop...thus the name, churn drillin This name was derived from the common practice of churning butter in a crock with this same up and down motion.

Percy's well digging business was pretty well confined to shallow

wells in soft material so he didn't need a drill....only a well bucket. He was a blacksmith, among other trades and professions that he practiced and so he made his own well buckets out of old used pipe....what ever size he needed 8, 10 or 12 inches in diameter. Using a 10 inch pipe about six feet long he would weld a ring on one end and then flare it out and sharpen it so that it would dig a hole about two inches larger than the pipe. Then another ring was fashioned with a flapper check valve attached to it and this inserted in the bottom of the bucket. Then with the addition of a bail at the top of the bucket he was ready to drill. The flapper valve allowed the mud and water to come up into the bucket on the down stroke and then closed on the up stroke so that the bucket soon filled. Tension on the rope soon taught the driller when the bucket was full and then he only had to hold tight on the rope and the engine pulled the full bucket out of the well where it could be swung to one side and dumped. This was a one-man drilling rig but it took both arms and considerable strength and skill to operate. The average domestic well could be drilled fifty feet deep in about one long day. In those days there was "big money" in this at fifty cents a foot. The well owner was expected to buy the steel well casing and whatever type of pump he might put in it. Percy would install the casing and gravel jacket the well for another 50¢ a foot.

Forest Borden drilled his well, mentioned above, with nothing more than an 8 inch well bucket and some water to turn the dry dirt into mud, in about two weeks.

Percy had another invention to save money. It was necessary to pump a new well to clear out the mud and fine sand and for this purpose he used an old second-hand pump that was badly worn in the packing gland

Store-bought packing, a kind of square braided rope filled with graphite was expensive so he use horse manure. Dry horse manure will swell when wet and stop a leaking packing gland, so he always carried a sack full of dry horse manure on his wagon rig. This required frequent stops to add more horse manure but it gave a man time to rest and talk to any prospective customer who might drop by to see how the digging was progressing and when the well rig might be moved to his property.

Percy Watson was an innovator with the natural ego that is typical of the inventor. He did not have much book learning but he did have a strong belief in the power of prayer, so it was natural for him to believe that he could discover oil by the help of a bent metal rod and some oil in a whiskey bottle carried in his hip pocket. He had found a place on our ranch where he thought there was shallow oil and he wanted to dig with the rig described above. My father agreed to divide the oil fifty-fifty. There was no lease, just a hand shake.

The site he picked was on the hill top just north of what is now the Country Store on El Camino Real. He drilled a six inch hole with a well bucket to a depth over 700 feet all of it in a white silica sand. It was a dry hole all the way and Percy had to quit after a months work. Hard times, hard work and hard luck, but the wife and kids had to be fed

Immediately following the end of World War I, the William G. Kerkoff Co. of Los Angeles, who owned a good deal of the land in old Carlsbad that had been laid out in streets in the 1880-ies, decided to bring water from the San Luis Rey Valley and sell their land and neighbors land as small farms, chicken ranches and orchards. Each acre purchased carried one share of water stock or one could buy what ever number of shares he might want or need in his particular operation.

The engineer placed in charge of this water project was a retired army captain named Sam Frazier. He was an old-time civil engineer who knew what to do and how to do it. He never hired consultants.

Most of the steel pipeline from the San Luis Rey Valley was 20 inch and tared inside and out with a tar paper wrapping on the outside to keep it from rusting. It was burried most of the way except for the section crossing Buena Vista Lagoon. That section was made of redwood staves held together by steel bolt hoops and raised on wooden piers to about two feet above mean tide line. When flood waters filled the lagoon without breaking out to sea the pipeline was barely submerged and when the water did break out the intire pipe was just above the lagoon bottom where it could dry out. This pipeline, over the years, sprung many leaks and there were many jokes going around how the men working for the company carried pockets full of redwood plugs to stop up the leaks, but this was the best and cheapest way, short of buying new pipe and installing it when ever a leak appeared. Frazier was a scotchman and working for a private company, not a city government. Sam Frazier ran the Carlsbad Mutual Water Company through almost its entire life practically by himself....because he ran it so well.

After a few years of successful operation, Frazier and his board of directors saw the need for additional storage as Carlsbad was growing and so they purchased the Calavera Damsite from My father. It was located in the canyon just north of the Calavera mountain. The site was surveyed, the future lake level established, in and out of the canyons and the boundary of the property established at ten feet above this level. This turned out to be 252 acres with some additional hill land in the southeast corner and cost the Company \$40,000.

A 16 inch pipeline was built into Carlsbad down along the north side of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon the high point being just above what is now Bristol Cove. A pump station was established at this high point and the water could either be pumped up into a reservoir located just south of Chestnut on top of the ridge or back into the Calavera lake. By this means, water from San Luis Rey could be stored in Calavera lake. In later years a small filter plant was built at the dam but there was no chlorination except in the small reservoirs in town when that was thought to be needed. People drank the water just as it came out of the tap and strangely enough, nobody died. If one didn't like the taste at times, the water could be boiled and if that made it taste worse, one could buy bottled water at 5 gallons for 75¢.

The Calavers Dam was built out of silica sand taken from the basin above and with a clay core a bulldozer blade wide. The Silica took a very high compaction and the dam has never leaked.

There were a number of springs in the canyon just above the dam that are now covered with water but their flow was never sufficient to offset the natural evaporation.

In the late 1930s a series of dry years with little or no runoff caused a water shortage and a newly arrived oil man from Texas and a self-proclaimed water witch, talked the water company directors into drilling a well close to the south shore of the lake where he said there was an underground stream...a veritable river of water and quite shallow at that. The stockholders and other doubters said that if they struck water it would only be circulating it....pumping out of the well into the lake and on and on. They did strike a good well at about 110 feet but after pumping a few months it gradually went down to

nothing and George Grober, the oil man, was proved right.....that the pump was not pumping out of the lake. It may be that what this proves is that water witches are often only about half right.

After Carlsbad was incorporated as a city, the Council decided to take over the Mutual Water Company; then, as today, they needed the income. A price was set at \$200 dollars a share, a bond was floated, the stockholders were paid, and the City took over.....some said..... a lot of old rusty lines and thousands of redwood plugs. But as we look back, it was a good deal for the city. They also bought 252 acres of land that is now worth (if we use the latest Daon-La Costa sale figures) \$33,333 per acre-times 252 acres-equals \$8,399,916.00.

All this has happened while the City has been carrying out a no-growth policy for developers, the while....slyly holding out on the sale of their prime Lake Calavera property, while values escalate. It has been suggested that if the City is really broke and needs money, it could issue a blanket building permit on the 252 acres and sell to the highest bidder. And to reverse the usual proceedings, the bidders could demand that the City give a 52 acre park, the bidders (developers) to each furnish a master plan together with a check....the Council to agree to accept the lowest bidder with the best plan. No consultants! This sounds like a real good and practical suggestion and right in line with President Reagans determination to turn the economy around.

Carlsbad's economy and water problems rocked along in an up and down fashion with a gradual ~~in~~ increasing growth but by about 1950, it became increasingly apparent that the heavy pumping in the San Luis Rey basin by both agriculture and the cities of Oceanside and Carlsbad, was

causing salt water intrusion from the ocean. The heavier salt water was slowly coming in under the lighter fresh water as more and more fresh water was pumped out of the lower end of the basin. The Carlsbad well field was in the lower end of the basin and Oceanside, whose wells were only a little farther up the valley, was beginning to complain and to threaten litigation on the water rights. Oceanside claimed that they were first to pump in the basin and that Carlsbad was pumping out of the San Luis Rey basin and into another watershed. This left the Carlsbad Mutual Water Company in a rather poor legal position and a series of dry years from 1945 to 1951, in which the average rainfall was only 8.23 inches, caused some of the forward-looking people in the City to consider joining the San Diego County Water Authority in order to get Los Angeles Metropolitan water.

A leading citizen of the city of San Diego, Fred Heilbron, who had long been known as Mr. Water, saw the hand writing on the wall for San Diego....that if they were to have any more growth they would have to have much more water and from a more certain source. So he and some other leading citizens filed for 105,000 acre feet of water out of the Colorado River. This was even before the city of Los Angeles started their drive to get Colorado River water, but when the Metropolitan offered the cities of Southern California to join, San Diego refused. However, with the advent of World War II and the great influx of people both civilian and military, Fred Heilbron and his water friends saw that it would be cheaper and wiser to join the Metropolitan, then already taking water from the Colorado River Acqueduct, and throw in their 105,000 acre feet of entitlement in the Colorado River. It was at this point in time (1944) that the U. S. Navy put up the money to build the

first barrel of the San Diego Aquaduct to bring water from the Colorado River pipeline in Riverside County, at a point near the end of the San Jacinto tunnel.

The series of dry years had brought on a general stampede among the cities and dry land areas of the County to get Colorado River water but many of the oldtime citizens of Carlsbad who had small avacado or citrus orchards thought there was plenty of water in the San Luis Rey basin for them. They were the nogrowthers of the 1950 era.

About this time, a retired Marine Corp officer, General Walter Rogers, who had gone into the real estate business, began to push for annexation of Carlsbad and the dry land area to the San Diego County Water Authority in order to get Colorado River water.

As World War II got underway, there was a great influx of both civilian and military population and a crying need for more water and indeed, a more secure supply. The U. S. Navy put up the money and the first barrel was built through and by 1950 the second barrel had been built, both of them on the same right-of-way through Escondido Valley.

In looking for support, General Rogers had come to me as being a likely representative of the dry land owners. I agreed to help and so we got together a committee of five that consisted, if I remember right, of General Rogers, Bill Frye, Max Ewald, Allan Kelly and Richard Coe. We found a retired water lawyer in Fallbrook by the name of Bill Dennis, who agreed to help in the formation of the district and then asked a number of engineering firms to submit bids for their services. One of them, Boyle Engineering, came in with the lowest bid. Bill Dennis was not interested in money. He was quite willing to work

for nothing or what ever we might want to pay him, if....we let him take his time. We did pay him \$125 per month and he often held his checks from three to six months before cashing them.....just the kind of lawyer we needed.

When the engineering came in we called for an election, the date set for August 1955. The area included in the district was the 20,000 acres we now have in the Costa Real Municipal Water District plus some 250 acres in North Carlsbad that had been served by the Carlsbad Mutual Water Company. This area later annexed to Oceanside.

The first bond election plan called for a very comprehensive water system at a cost of \$1,956,000. It included a 36 inch main line into Carlsbad, four, million gallon steel tanks, a two million gallon tank at the edge of San Marcos and near the main line, and branch lines connecting the tanks with the main line. This was a very good deal because prices were low then and interest rates very good too but the no growth voters in Carlsbad saw the dry landers as getting a free ride and the election lost by quite a wide margin.

But General Rogers was a doer. He called his troops together.... committee, lawyer and engineer and after due deliberation it was decided to cut the cost of the project by reducing the size of the pipeline and putting the burden of the branch lines and steel tanks on the dry lands by forming separate districts for that purpose.

The second bond election for \$1,350,000 was as hotly contested as the one before but well over a year had passed and times had changed. More dry years had lowered the water table in the San Luis Rey Valley. Salt water intrusion was becoming a very real problem and the orchard people were not quite so sure they didn't need Colorado River water.

The political picture had changed too. Carlsbad was forced to incorporate in order to prevent Oceanside from taking the 60 million dollar assessed valuation of the San Diego Gas & Electric plant, then building. Oceanside was going to accomplish this by annexing a strip of land on the west side of the railroad down across the lagoon and including the plant and 90 acres of land.

An election for this was required and petitions were passed around by both sides. Feeling ran high. Some wanted to join Oceanside and some not, others signed both petitions. When the election was over and the votes were counted, Carlsbad won by one vote. Most of the citizens of Carlsbad rejoiced but the Gas Company officials were very angry. They wanted to remain in the County and spread their assessed valuation over the County.

Another political problem that came up at this time was the attitude of Carlsbad and the League of California Cities who wanted to control water and charge agricultural land an inclusion fee. Fees suggested were in the order of \$250 to \$300 per acre, an amount that few if any farmers could afford. The Los Angeles Metropolitan Water District and the San Diego County Water Authority took a dim view of this proposal and together with the state farm organizations, put a new law through the legislature called the Municipal Water District Act. This law allowed dry land areas outside the cities to form districts to get water and to provide police and fire protection too.

By this time incorporation proceedings were under way in Carlsbad but the organizers still wanted to keep the dry lands from having any water if they couldn't collect any fees, but Chairman Fred Heilbron advised the about-to-be-appointed-councilmen that they would not get any water unless all of the dry lands were taken in....that there would be no islands allowed in the water authority district in the County.

In the meantime, Bill Dennis was well underway with the formation of the Carlsbad Municipal Water District with boundaries drawn up to include some 20,250 acres of land. This included 250 acres of land in North Carlsbad that had been a part of the old Mutual Water Company but after a few years North Carlsbad was annexed by Oceanside. There was a hot political battle over this annexation, so much so that the opponents of annexation refused to deannex from our district and so paid taxes in both Oceanside and Carlsbad for several years.

The Municipal Water District law, as I remember it, provided that a board of directors slate would be elected along with the passing of the bond issue. The second bond election was for \$1,350,000,--the Boyle Engineering cost estimate, but when the bids came in the low bid was for \$1,225,000. The times were tough and the bidding was close. So the newly elected directors sold \$1,225,000 worth of 30 year bonds at an interest rate of 5 percent. This left us with \$125,000 worth of unsold bonds which we still have on the shelf waiting for a low rate of interest when they may again be attractive to the bond buyers.

In their next move, the Board of Directors formed three ^{improvement} districts. No. 1 district took in the entire land area including the City of Carlsbad. The main 27 inch trunk line into the City, a two million gallon concrete and wire wrapped tank at the boundary of San Marcos, and four one million

gallon steel tanks. No 2 district included all of the land south of Palomar Airport Road and they had to bond that district to build their own branch lines. District No. 3 included all of the land north of Palomar Airport Road and outside of the City boundaries and No. 3 had to pay for their branch lines. Some small lines serving individual land owners were paid for by the land owner on a pay-back arrangement based on water sales through that line over a period of not more than five years. District No. 4 was created in later years to build the Squires Dam. This was a 600 acre-foot reservoir with a top lake level elevation of 505 feet above sea level which could serve all of the district so everyone in District No 1 helped pay for the reservoir.

The City, it will be remembered, already had their own system of pipelines and reservoirs so they retained the management of their area and the CMWD sold them the water wholesale with an over-ride to take care of transportation and maintenance. The City Council did not grumble too much about this because they had just grabbed that great plumb....the 60 million dollar assessed valuation of the Gas Company which, at that time, was more than all the assessed valuation of the City.

For quite a long stretch of years following the incorporation of the City and the formation of the water district, good relations prevailed.

The directors of the CMWD have always been a forward-looking group of business men who worked together with little dissension and bickering. They always anticipated the needs of the district in advance and were ready with the water where and when it was needed. They never considered it their duty or privilege to control the development of the district by stalling or making unreasonable or unnecessary rules. Their policy has always been one of cooperation.....a good neighbor policy with all of the surrounding cities and water districts, and the neighbor

have appreciated this and reciprocated.....for example:—

The CMWD suggested cross-connections through main branch lines with Oceanside, San Marcos and Olivenhain and each one has been glad to cooperate for this is a form of insurance in case a major disaster might occur to some districts system and they would need to get water into their system from the neighbor.

Another example: When the CMWD was formed, it was necessary to go to the second barrel in Escondido or connect to the San Marcos main line at Rock Springs Road. San Marcos had sufficient capacity and were kind enough to let us make the connection. We then built a 14 inch line through their district some two miles in length to connect with our 27 inch line. This 14 inch line served for several years until the 86 inch fourth barrel was put through the western edge of the San Marcos district and we could make a permanent connection to that line. We then found ourselves with a 14 inch line we could not use but San Marcos had grown and needed the line. So we sold them the line at about half its cost and under a long payoff by which they paid a transportation cost through the line according to the amount of water used.

Our board of directors started and promoted another joint venture with our neighbors in the Tri-Agency Pipeline and suggested that it be engineered and built by the San Diego County Water Authority. This was accomplished to the great benefit of all concerned and at a cost far below what it would have been if each party had gone their own way.

Cooperation with our neighbors is a great feeling and so we are now on a joint venture with San Marcos and Olivenhain to build another main line from the fourth barrel into our three districts to the south. It will come into La Costa to supplement the need in that area and have

a 5 million gallon tank on the highest elevation in our district and thus be of advantage to all of the people in the whole district, No. 1. And it will cost less because of this joint-venture-cooperation.

Because of the need to separate our public image from that of the City of Carlsbad (many people thought that we were one and the same organization) we changed our name to Costa Real Municipal Water District

Going back some 18 years in our water history, the directors saw the need of a large storage reservoir and commissioned Boyle Engineers to locate a site and make a cost study. They came back with a very expensive project in Los Monos Canyon that was to cost over 6 million dollars and was so low that it would require pumping to get water to the higher elevations in a large part of the district. The Board rejected this plan but one of the directors thought of another high elevation site of much smaller size. This became the Squires Dam when built. It held some 650 acre feet of water, had a lake elevation of 505 feet and cost about \$620,000 dollars. Without this extra storage, the district and the city of Carlsbad would have been in serious trouble during some of the extended heat waves in the dry years. During some of these hot spells water usage almost doubled and in spite of taking our maximum flow through the 27 inch line, the tanks were going dry and the water level in the lake was getting very low. We were running out of water and storage capacity.

This pointed to the need for additional storage and some 8 years ago the Board purchased another 56 acres of land along the north side of the present Squires dam. The price paid for this land was \$3,000 per acre over a five year period at 7% interest and most of the money came out of water sales so that everyone helped pay for it.

When and if a dam is constructed on this property it will hold 1500 acre feet of water and have a lake level about 10 feet higher than Squires Dam. This lake, to be called Squires No. 2 (it was named after the original owner of the property) will be filled from the Tri-City pipeline and being higher than the other lake along side, (Squires No. 1) that lake can be filled from the Tri-City line in case of a need for repair or other reason.

Now, with the completion of the Tri-City line into Carlsbad and a new transmission line into the La Costa area, it may be a good many years before Squires Dam No. 2 is needed but the 56 acres is excellent view property and could all be subdivided into high quality residential homesites. At present day prices, this land is easily worth \$20,000 per acre and access will soon be available from a 450 acre subdivision adjoining it on the west and north. In the meantime, the land is being leased to a tomato grower for \$175 per acre thus making some money for the district and keeping good land in agriculture for food production.

With this long recitation of all the good things the directors of the water district have done over the years, the timely and wise judgments of construction and the investments made, we, ___ the present directors of the Costa Real Municipal Water District....duely elected by the people.....are proud of our accomplishments.

Strangely enough, not everyone appreciates our self-proclaimed achievements. Among others, the City Fathers, who have wanted to take us over as a subsidiary district for the last 122 years. Their stated reasons: They can save the people money and better control the growth of the community if they control the water too. We think their real reason is that they want the Costa Real's real property, its bank

account (Time deposits and cash of about \$700,000) and the steady flow of our water sales to put in their general fund. It seems there is a need for all city governments to have cash on hand to hire consultants.

In a matter of months, there will nodoubt be an election to decide whether or not the City of Carlsbad will take over theCosta Real Water District. Then we will compare track records for the voters to think about and it will be found that their record is not so good. They have never looked to the future, only reacted to the present, and they have never made any wise investments of importance. Sam Frazier and the directors of the old Mutual Water Company made the wise investment in buying the 252 acres in the Calavera Dám Site. Since Carlsbad was incorporated and a council took over, the Calavera property has been allowed^{to go} to pot. Nothing has been done to maintain it or improve it as a park or recreational area, nor has any attempt been made to lease its 150 acres of tillable hill land at the east end of the property for agriculture.

It is a sad and sorry comentary on city government everywhere, not just Carlsbad, that they are negative. They seldom look to the future but only react negatively to each new problem (which they create by their countless rules and regulations) with developers or environmentalists or other governmental organizations. They have far to much to do and are always behind with their commitments. They talk of "orderly growth" for others but not for their bureaucratic empire.

Allan T. Kelly