

An \$800,000 Road Gamble Pays Off, Weather Helps

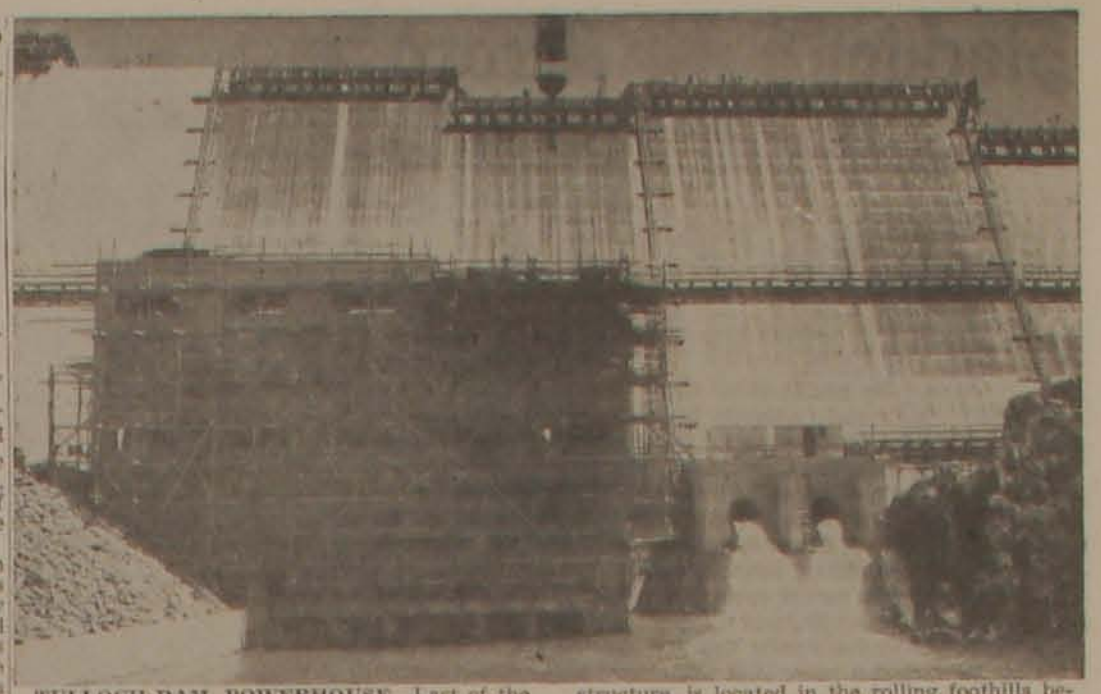
An \$800,000 gamble by the Tri-Dam contractors has paid off. This was the cost of the "4700" road constructed to connect Donnell's Dam, its powerhouse, and the Beardsley site to facilitate movement of equipment, supplies, labor and permit establishment of one main camp to serve all three locations.

Before any work was started on the dams themselves, contractors found that much time and money would be lost if everything had to be transported from Donnell's to the Sonora highway, down the highway to the powerhouse access road, and further down the highway to the Beardsley access road. So they gambled—and built a road along the 4700 foot elevation, winding along the steep canyon side that borders the middle fork of the Stanislaus River.

The road cut down mileage between the various sites, but it had to be maintained throughout the snow season by the contractors. It is a private road. Maintenance was a tough job, because dam building equipment and trucks that used it daily were hard on the road bed.

A mild winter helped, and construction continued without interruption the past year, sometimes round the clock at Donnell's and Beardsley. Instead of the four years allowed by the irrigation districts, 2½ years has been enough.

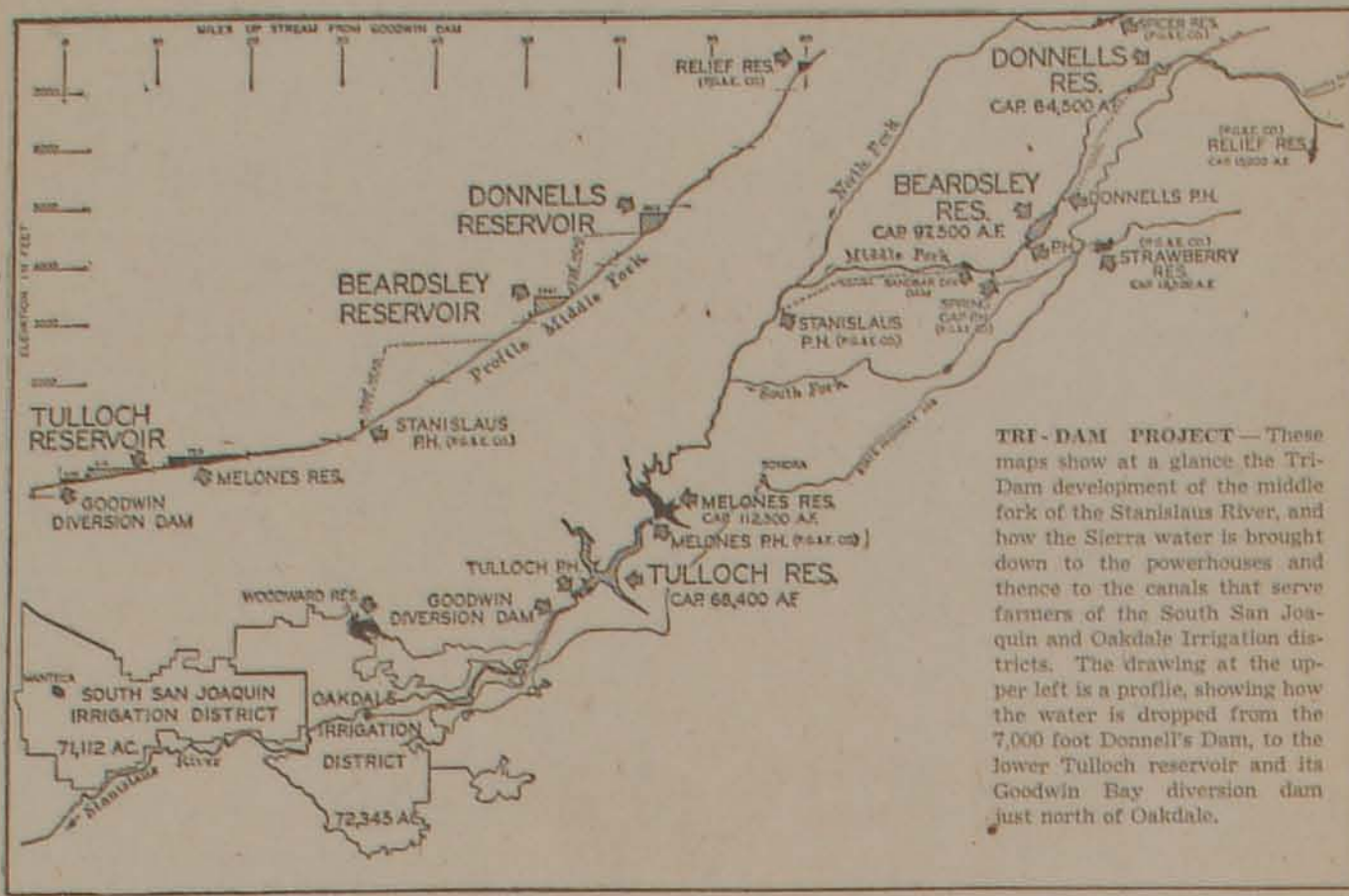
Everybody is happy. The contracting combine is collecting its bonus from sale of power and the farmers had protection from high water early this spring when Beardsley and Donnell's dams held run-off waters from the Sierra.



TULLOCH DAM, POWERHOUSE—Last of the three dams and powerhouses to be completed is Tulloch, pictured above. This low level unit of the chain, a solid concrete 200-foot high structure, is located in the rolling foothills beyond Knights Ferry. Its reservoir will be the biggest of the three—seven miles long, covering 1,560 acres.



GOODWIN AFTERBAY—This is the old Goodwin Dam after it has been raised seven feet to form an afterbay for Tulloch Dam in order to regulate discharge of water to irrigation district canals. It is known as the diversion works for the irrigation systems.



TRI-DAM PROJECT—These maps show at a glance the Tri-Dam development of the middle fork of the Stanislaus River, and how the Sierra water is brought down to the powerhouses and thence to the canals that serve farmers of the South San Joaquin and Oakdale Irrigation districts. The drawing at the upper left is a profile, showing how the water is dropped from the 7,000 foot Donnell's Dam, to the lower Tulloch reservoir and its Goodwin Bay diversion dam just north of Oakdale.

Banker, Farmers Agree Dam Is Bonanza for Valley Area

More Land Going Into Production Since Project Insures Against Dry Years

By GERALDINE RUSSELL
Record Correspondent

ESCALON, June 14—Jubilant is the word that best expresses the reaction of farmers in the Escalon, Ripon and Manteca areas, while Virgil Marchant, vice-president of the Escalon Branch of Central Valley Bank, describes the Tri-Dam construction as the biggest bonanza since the discovery of gold in 1849.

Looking at it from an economic expert's view first, Marchant who now heads the bank which was originally founded in 1906, believes that since irrigation water is one of the area's most important assets, the building of the Tri-Dams is certainly one of the most valuable projects of modern times.

"It will tend to stabilize the entire economy of our districts due to an assured supply of water. The gamble on the dry years will be a thing of the past while the stabilization of land values and appraisals can be looked forward to in the future," according to the banker.

BUY'S NEW LAND

Then take young William "Bill" Kincaid, 30, rancher north of Ripon. He recently purchased 109 acres at auction from the state. This was formerly unirrigated high ground. The state took off the top soil and used it to construct the 99 Freeway in that vicinity. It was known as the Bianchi Borrow Pit.

Kincaid now has it leveled and ready for irrigation with 2800 feet of new pipeline. He is planting it to black eyed peas and if he finds the soil isn't rich enough he'll plow the first crop under to build it up. "As long as we have the water, we don't have to worry about the condition of the ground. That can generally be taken care of with fertilizer treatments on the market today," he stated.

Kincaid who is an enthusiastic farmer, is the grandson of Fred Kincaid who was on the first South San Joaquin Irrigation District board of directors. He has 160 acres of his own and cares for about 400 acres counting his mother's property. The crops are di-

versified including grapes, corn, almonds and beans.

With a glint in his eyes he will assure you everyone is going to profit from the Tri-Dams. "Take the river bottom ranchers. Their worst enemy is the danger of a high crest coming down the river to flood out their crops. This danger will become a thing of the past with those dams up there to help control the river flow."

SEES EXPANSION

"The district might see an expansion of truck garden crops in the area. These could be undertaken on a larger scale when water is available more often and over a longer period," he muses as he looks over his newly acquired 109 acres. He is the third generation in his family to depend on water for a livelihood and has 3 boys and a girl. Some of these will probably be fourth generation Kincaids to know the true value of water to the rancher.

What about the orchardists and nut growers? An interview with Mrs. Harvey Rollins answered this question, as Harvey had gone fishing.

She and her husband started on a mortgaged 20 acres of wheat stubble 34 years ago near Escalon. Today they operate over 200 acres of peaches, almonds and walnuts. "It's a good thing none of us knew anything about being orchardists back in the 1920's," she is more commonly called. "Our husbands were just back from World War I and we all decided to grow fruit where nothing but wheat had been tried before."

"Water was available from the district only every 30 days then and we all thought that was fine. Good thing we didn't know it was



ALWAYS A BOOSTER—A. D. Goodwin, Manteca area rancher and manufacturer of farm harvesting equipment, has been one of the Tri-Dam Project's most avid boosters since its early planning stage many years ago. According to Goodwin this is the boost the district needed to make it a leader in production.

the water that sized the fruit or we would probably still be on 20 acres of mortgaged wheat."

"Though the orchardist doesn't need as much water as other types of farming it is still important that it comes at the right time. You need it for sure just before picking to be sure the fruit is sized properly. This generally comes late in the irrigation season and sometimes it wasn't available when needed."

GOOD INSURANCE

"The Tri-Dams will be good insurance against dry years for the orchardists and excellent for those needing irrigation more frequently," according to Ev, who recalls their first orchard was interplanted with tomatoes to help pay off the mortgage.

She headed the family's dry yard for 20 years and perfected the cutting card which is still used almost exclusively in this area though the Rollins' fruit all goes to the cannery now and the nuts to the association.

Incidentally, Mrs. Rollins was seriously injured three years ago

in an auto accident and doctors credited her great strength built up over the years by manual labor on the ranch with saving her life. The Rollins have two grown sons who are still affiliated with the ranch and three grandchildren who will probably take over where the grandparents and parents leave off. "With ample water from the Tri-Dams their future's assured," according to grandma Ev.

OLD TIME BACKER

Another avid booster of the Tri-Dam Project since its study began many years ago is A. D. Goodwin of Manteca. Goodwin Dam built in 1911 was named after his father, Benjamin A. Goodwin, and was as big a project at that time as the Tri-Dam is today.

Ben Goodwin started the ranch in 1875 and the original 310 acres have practically remained intact though in 1948 it was divided into two sections. A. D. Goodwin and Son Inc. came into being as manufacturers of nut and fruit harvesting equipment while the rest of the ranch remained in almonds, walnuts, grapes and olives.

A. D. Goodwin; his son, Ben, and son-in-law, Hal Michael, who serves as director of sales and promotions for the manufacturing portion of the ranch all share the same idea on the Tri-Dam and seem to sum up what can be expected from it. "The Tri-Dam is just what this district needed to make it the most productive area in the country."

Plenty of Dirt

More than three million cubic yards of dirt fill was used in the earth core of Beardsley Dam, the largest of the three projects. The earth was excavated in digging the reservoir.

The dirt was unloaded at the rate of 30 tons a minute and was compressed by a big 50-ton roller. A potluck dinner will be served at 7 o'clock tonight by the Bethel Island Rod and Gun Club prior to its regular meeting. The club is affiliated with the Associated Sportsmen's Club.



BIG BONANZA—Virgil Marchant, head of the Escalon Branch of the Central Valley National Bank, declares the Tri-Dam Project is the biggest bonanza since the discovery of gold in 1849 and will tend to stabilize land values and appraisals in the districts. The Escalon branch was formerly the Escalon State Bank and has served farmers and business men in this area since 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Diurullo, owners of Diurullo's Harbor on River Road, Bethel Island, will return this week from a deep sea fishing excursion. They plan to resume their vacation later with Mr. and Mrs. Bonnie Klein, owners of Bethel Harbor.

Dam Operating Parking Lot Work Ordered Crews Ready to Carry On

STRAWBERRY, June 14—As the contractors move out of the vast Tri-Dam project in Tuolumne County, a battery of workers will operate the dams moves in. Heading this new group is Thomas B. Copeland, Twain Harte, who will be power manager for the project.

Others include: Myron Williams, chief operator; Lee Appleton, Robert Howard, Carlos Morales, and four men to be selected operators; L. P. Marshall, utility man and operator; B. C. O'Hagan, electrical technician; and a maintenance foreman is to be hired along with two assistants.

These men, with additions to be announced later, will operate the powerhouses at the Donnell's, Beardsley, and Tulloch dams, guard the structures, and keep them operating around the clock.

Budget Time in Patterson

PATTERSON, June 14—The estimated income for the 1957-58 Patterson operating budget is \$122,570, some \$18,446 more than the budget of the current fiscal year.

The estimate was announced Tuesday at a meeting of the City Council. An adjourned session for further budget discussion will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday.

The budget traditionally is drawn in the amount of the estimated income.

Councilmen said the city probably will about "break even" on the \$104,124 budget for the current year. They said \$100,124 was spent as of the end of May. Funds from the Motor Vehicle Department in-lieu tax are expected to even up the total by July 1.

Riverbank City Budget Is Up

RIVERBANK, June 14—The Riverbank City Council this week received a proposed budget of \$83,425 for the 1957-58 fiscal year, an increase of \$11,425 over the \$72,000 figure of the current year.

Most increases are due to raises in salaries granted city employees. A departmental breakdown is as follows: police, \$25,900; streets, \$25,680; parks and recreation, \$3,900; city offices, \$12,000; general expenses, \$4,375; other expenses, \$4,579; accounts payable, \$3,660; and capital outlay, \$3,350.

The council hired a new member of the police department. He is Harold B. Harless who will start July 1 as a patrolman at a salary of \$340 a month. This will top at \$385.

Harless fills a vacancy in the department created when Melvin Langford, assistant chief, resigned his post.

The council abolished the assistant chief's post and promoted Patrolman William Huntley to the position of sergeant. His salary will be \$385 a month.

Although the council originally intended to discuss plans for the Riverbank Housing area redevelopment with a Stockton contractor, the matter was postponed until today when bids will be opened for the sale of four housing area lots.

Dam Operating Parking Lot Work Ordered Crews Ready to Carry On

NEWMAN, June 14—Council-operated the concession for the man W. E. Enos was authorized at the Tuesday night meeting of the City Council to have the recently purchased parking lot on O Street leveled and surfaced with blacktop.

He also was instructed to install four light poles and lights on the lot, two on the alley side, and two on O Street.

Clarence Loyd was awarded a contract to collect the city's garbage at \$1.20 per household. Prices for downtown collections will remain unchanged. In addition, Loyd agrees to pick up 100 pounds of rubbish daily if it is placed in disposable containers. The bid submitted by Jack Church, who has

operated the concession for the past several years was \$1.25 for the same service. Cost of covering or piping a ditch on the west side of the city superintendent, volunteered to contact the property owners in the area to determine whether they would be willing to bear the expense of such covering and piping.

The Newman Sheet Metal Works was awarded the contract to install a new cooling system at the library. Their bid was \$199, slightly lower than that of the D & E Electric and Supply Co., \$214.

Bills totaling \$3447 were read and approved for payment.

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Our Sincere Congratulations

to the

OAKDALE and SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

for their accomplishment in making the great TRI-DAM PROJECT a reality.

Development of the water resources of this great country of ours means building a stronger America, and accomplishing a development such as the Tri-Dam Project without Federal or Governmental assistance is truly a great achievement.

We are grateful and proud to have had the honor of serving you on this great project.

The Arundel Corp. — L. E. Dixon Co.

GENERAL CONTRACTORS for the Construction of Tulloch Dam and Power Plant and Modification of Goodwin Dam and Appurtenances.



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