

Antelope Valley Growth of 10,000 Anticipated

LANCASTER, Sept. 6—Population growth in Antelope Valley during the next year may approximate 10,000, President James Bacon of Lancaster Chamber of Commerce estimates on the basis of the area's rapidly expanding industry.

While the former Lancaster Airport has been given over to a subdivision of newly built homes, companies centering around Palmdale Airport five miles away expect to employ more than 1500 additional workmen, Bacon has been advised. Edwards Air Force Base, formerly Muroc, is 29 miles to the northeast with a population in excess of 10,000.

Building Boom Shown

This city, with a present population of 11,000 registered a figure of \$7,772,313 for all types of building projects in 1952.

Antelope Valley field crops

last year brought \$9,713,950. The poultry industry returned more than \$18,000,000 by processing over 12,000,000 fryers and 400,000 turkeys in 1952. An association has been organized to market Antelope Valley poultry and a storage and packing plant is under construction here.

In their seasons, more than 500 truckloads of alfalfa and 280 of live poultry leave here for the Los Angeles market each week.

In the future lies the possibility that Southern California may import water from the Feather River Dam at Oroville. This could have tremendous importance to Antelope Valley, which still has 300,000 acres of fertile land waiting only for water to spring into high agricultural productivity.

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