

WATER, LAND FOR A MILLION PEOPLE

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The need to import water in Antelope Valley to supplement the presently abundant

ground water basin supplies for future growth has been amply demonstrated by water experts and water users. On this point no one has disagreed. Responsible

leaders of Antelope Valley, with vision and foresight and a great deal of personal sacrifices in time and money, through holding innumerable public meetings which were widely publicized in all areas of the agency, sought and obtained the creation of the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency Law in 1959. That same year the Legislature approved the California Water Resources and Development Bond Act. Eminent authorities on water, such as Harvey Banks, who was then Director of the Department of Water Resources, and others, conferred with the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Basin Assn. and recommended boundaries of the agency.

Million People

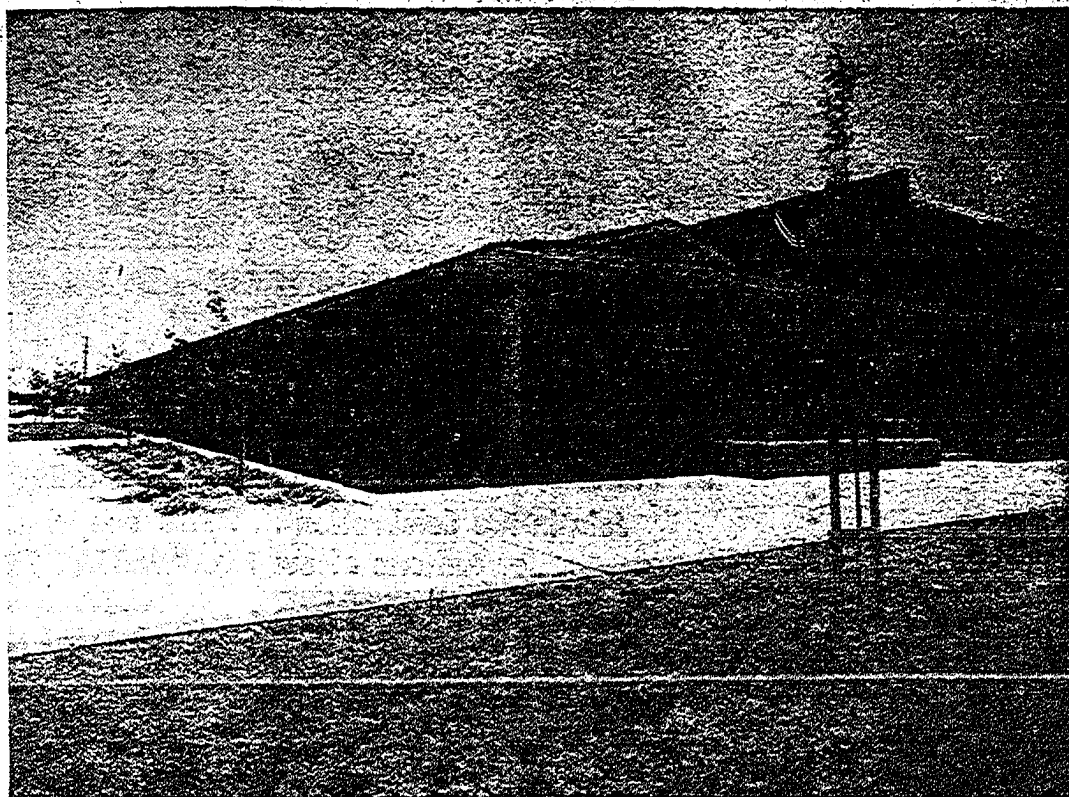
The water agency provides the vehicle for obtaining imported water, authorized under the California Water Resources and Development Bond Act, and has entered into a contract with the state for capacity in the state project needed to deliver 120,000 acre feet of water into Antelope Valley. The water agency may obtain up

to 30,000 acre feet additional water. At this point there has been no disagreement on the need for imported water or the quantity which has been requested.

A statistical analysis of future population projections clearly show that in the year 2000 more than a million people will reside within the water agency.

Statistical analysis predicts with less certainty the distribution of this population within the agency. However, the assumption is made that the present communities will serve as nuclei around which the future populations will grow. The rate of growth in Antelope Valley communities will vary greatly.

Industrially oriented areas will not likely support large populations since the people tend to cluster around cultural and urban supporting services. Imported water use will be proportional to population, it is assumed, and the projected population for the year 1990 has determined the maximum quantity of water which should be obtained from the Feather River Project. In the extreme northerly end of the agency, ground water supplies are believed by local purveyors to be adequate for many years and hence uncertainty exists as to the extent these areas will participate in distribution of water by the agency. In nearly all other areas there is a need for receiving water from the agency by 1972 is now apparent.



ANTELOPE VALLEY courts building in the rapidly growing new civic center in Lancaster.

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