

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1971

THURSDAY, MAY

REVEILLE

Marine Captain Charles L. III, husband of the former Miss Virginia I. Vandeventer of 45440 N. Genoa, Lancaster, was promoted to his present rank while serving at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, Calif.

★ ★ ★

Navy Petty Officer Third Class M.A. Crager, son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Crager of Lancaster, has returned to the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, after a six-month deployment to Vietnam with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Three.

★ ★ ★

Navy Ensign John I. Knapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard A. Knapp of 44560 No. 15th West and husband of the former Miss Kathryn E. Browney of 402 E. Langhorn, all of Lancaster, has graduated from Training Squadron Gen (VT-10) Pensacola, Fla. Ens. is a graduate of California Polytechnical State University, San Luis Obispo, Calif.

Woman Injured Early Tuesday

treatment for abrasions above the right eye and multiple abrasions of the right arm and shoulder. She wasn't admitted.

Monday and early Tuesday, California Highway Patrolmen assigned to the Lancaster Station investigated nine accidents with seven injured but six declining treatment.

AVEK Seeks to Explain Paradoxical Bond Issue

How do you explain to people that passing a bond issue will end up costing them less than not passing it?

That's the problem facing Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, according to its president, Al E. Skelton.

Skelton revealed that AVEK is under heavy pressure from local water companies and districts to inform the public of the need for approval of bond financing for construction of the AVEK project.

The local water systems are concerned over failure of the AVEK project at the polls earlier this year because these systems need State Project water soon to augment the present supply from the dwindling groundwater reservoir, he said.

"AVEK is being blamed — perhaps rightly — for the fact that so many voters went to the polls with misunderstandings of the water issue," said Skelton. He pointed out that AVEK does not believe in spending taxpayers money for massive publicity efforts. He said this conservative philosophy may have been the prime factor in the defeat of the AVEK proposal, as water purveyors claim.

Skelton said the AVEK board is now attempting to fill this "information gap" by meeting with representatives from many organizations in the area. Purpose of the meet-

ings, he said, is to separate fact from fancy concerning local water conditions and AVEK's solution, and to solicit advice from these groups as to how the facts can be made available to the public.

Skelton said there is considerable urgency to this "round table" project because AVEK taxpayers, are faced with large yearly payments for this area's share of State Project construction costs. These payments will average more than \$4,000,000 a year for the next 65 years, he said, even though AVEK voters have not approved a system to use water from this source.

Skelton said rejection of the bond issue at the February election will result in higher tax and water costs, but that the reasons for this are complex and difficult to explain in simple terms.

Skelton said the fine per-
(Continued on Page 5)

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★ ★
Soil Conservation conservationists have Clougherty Packing with a conservator their Farmer John the Saugus area of Angeles County Soil tion District. Addit gated pasture will lished on this 1,770 a Goats fescue at the pounds per acre and the rate of 3 pound seeded. Sprinkler will be used on this soil.

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AVEK . . .

(Continued from Page 4)
formance of local water purveyors over the years has also made it difficult to convince many people that this area faces an imminent water crisis.

"Homeowners are insulated from the facts of life about our serious groundwater overdraft because they nearly always get water when they turn on their faucets," Skelton went on. "Hardly anybody realizes how much skill and planning has gone into this kind of service. Fewer yet are aware how dangerously close we are to being unable to provide enough good quality water to our people without supplemental water from the State Water Project."

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Antelope Valley Press
May 16, 1971
p. 4

Antelope Valley 2 p. 4 of 81