

—AVEK releases information on costs to AV taxpayers

If the people of Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency never build a local system to make use of State Project water, it will cost local taxpayers \$256,775,211 for water they can't use, it was revealed.

Agency president Al E. Skelton said the refined calculation of what the Agency owes under its contract for State Project water has been made from updated financial information provided by the State Department of Water Resources.

"Many Water Agency taxpayers are not aware that this area's contract for State Project water will remain in force through the year 2035," Skelton pointed out, "and will not be affected by failure of local voters to approve a bond issue to build the local works need-

ed to use this water supply."

If a system could be built to make State Project water available to local users, Skelton continued, many of the costs under the contract could be recovered through water sales, while at the same time, the steady drop in the groundwater table could be arrested.

Skelton emphasized there is no way to repudiate the local obligations of the contract for State Project water, nor would such action be responsible in view of the continuing groundwater "overdraft", even if it were possible.

"The important fact is we must pay a quarter-of-a-billion dollars for a supply of State Project water, whether or not we ever decide to take advantage of it," said Skelton.

Assemblyman Russell lauds recent death penalty vote

Assemblyman Newton R. Russell (R-62nd AD) has commented favorably on the passage of the bill to restore the death penalty in California. "This action not only puts California out in front in a strong position of leadership nationwide in the battle against crime and in support of law enforcement officials, but it also keeps our faith with the desires of the citizens of the state," Russell stated.

Russell was a co-author of the successful legislation. Because of Assembly amendments in the bill, it will first have to be re-approved by the California State Senate before being signed by the Governor. "I feel sure that the bill will

pass easily again in the State Senate, since it is in substantially the same form that it was in when passed overwhelmingly by the Senate earlier in the year," Russell explained.

"I believe that the passage of this legislation is truly a victory which was built by the people," said Russell. "Seldom is the voice of the citizens more clear than in this instance where people from throughout California worked hard for and overwhelmingly voted for the passage of Proposition 17 mandating the State legislative action."

"I am grateful to have had a part in the passage of this important issue," Russell concluded.

COSTLY BLAZE—A fire at the Michael F. Haggerty residence at 42907 Cromley Ct. in Lancaster early Saturday evening caused damage which has been estimated at \$15,000. The blaze broke out in the upstairs den and fire officials

East Kern County

BAKERSFIELD — Nov. 6, 1973, has been set as the date for special elections in several east Kern County communities.

The county board of supervisors Tuesday approved resolutions consolidating the special district elections with the regular Nov. 6 general election for the following special districts:

—Boron Community Services District board of directors

—Rosamond Community Services District board of directors

—Desert Lake Community Services District board of directors

—Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District board of directors

—Mojave Public Utility District board of directors

Citizens in any of these communities desiring to become a

In other Kern County communities, the election pertaining to supervisors appointment change on the complex under Mojave.

The building of the new County of Kern Regional Building, Regional Center.

The entire 3rd District will be known as the new eastern Region.

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Implementation of Lawyers Reference Service for AV

The Antelope Valley Bar Association is providing great assistance to new mem-

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