

Soquel Creek Danger Spots



Supervisor Lewis Nelson, left, points out some of the areas needing flood control protection along Soquel creek to members of the army corps of engineers from the San Francisco

district office. Looking on, from the left, are Col. John S. Hartnett, district engineer; John E. Deignan, chief of the engineering division, and Lt. Col. Vernon Sanders. Edward Per-

etto, far right, chairman of the Capitola-Soquel citizens study committee, also made the tour from the mouth of the creek eight miles inland. The engineers and local officials checked

the creek yesterday afternoon. Others on the tour were Phil Girard, H. K. "Tiny" Clark and Ken Izant, members of the study committee; and two members of the corps of engineers.

Hollister Census Shows Increase

Population of Hollister is 6050, according to the preliminary census report, Mrs. Margaret Hipp, area census supervisor, announced.

The city, county seat of San Benito county, showed a gain of 23.3 per cent in the past decade. Population in 1950 was 4903 with a population of 3881 in the 1940 census.

Population of San Benito county was 15,263, up 893 since the 1950 census.

Soquel-Capitola Residents Tell Flood Control Needs

By Norman Indahl

A great deal of interest was shown in a flood control project for Soquel creek: with 150-200 persons packing the multi-purpose room of the Soquel school last night.

The army corps of engineers from San Francisco launched a feasibility study with a public hearing on the project. Col. John S. Hartnett, district engineer, declared it will be several years—depending on the availability of funds—before the study, containing recommendations, is finished.

A report will be brought back to the people for a public hearing before the completed study is sent to congress, he said.

Many persons owning homes along the creek expressed the need for a flood control project and a dam for storing water. Civic leaders of the two communities also cited the need for control.

A detailed brochure with pictures, rainfall data, and flood reports was turned over to the engineering corps by a committee of Soquel-Capitola citizens, headed by Edward Peretto. Les Gum, chief ranger, state division of forestry, announced that he had

Gubser is... nomination while Russen... is unopposed for the Democratic nomination. The district also includes Santa Clara and San Benito counties.

With 5716 registered voters in Watsonville, a sample of 10 of the 29 precincts, showed 452 voters before noon.

In the Santa Cruz area, a check of nearly 100 precincts showed a vote of 4643 out of a possible 18,879 at noon-time. Voting was spasmodic with some precincts reporting a much heavier vote than others. Rural areas were trailing the city in percentage as usually occurs in the morning hours.

submitted a report to the corps headquarters in San Francisco.

Gleaning some of the highlights from the report prepared by the citizens' committee, Peretto said that 13 major floods "have raised havoc" with the area since 1862. Total from the 1955 flood amounted to \$912,754, he stated.

Capitola is situated so there is a three-prong attack in a flood, Peretto pointed out. The community is hit by rising waters from China creek, Soquel creek and the ocean.

The committee recommends construction of a dual purpose dam—for flood control and water conservation—on the east branch of Soquel creek, approximately 1½ miles from the Olive Springs quarry. A water district would be formed.

Peretto noted that two-thirds of the floodwater comes from the east branch of the creek, and for this reason it was deemed feasible for a dam in this area.

"We are badly in need of water," Peretto said.

Realtor Ralph Barr of Soquel stated that 150 lots in the Monterey Bay Heights area are "useless until we get water."

en To 7 p.m.—Have You Cast Your Ballot?