

Weather Report

Temperature for 24-hour period ending at 8 a. m. today — Maximum 70 minimum 48.

Monterey Bay Area — Fog and low clouds, clearing in afternoons, through tomorrow; little temperature change.


SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL-NEWS

Serving Santa Cruz County Since 1856

Guaranteed Paid Circulation
of The Sentinel-News yesterday was

12,594

MISSED PAPER? If you phone GA 3-4242 before 6:30 p. m. a special messenger will deliver Sentinel-News to you if you live within city limits.

100th Year—No. 122  1

 6



SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA, TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1956



5c

Sunday and Daily
Excepting Saturday

SIXTEEN PAGES

City's Water Needs Are Explored

Voters May Have To

Explored

Voters May Have To Choose Between Tax Hike, Higher Rates

City voters may be offered their choice of higher taxes or increased water rates to pay for the additional water supplies the city will need in both the near and distant future.

The possibility of a choice popped up last night as city water commissioners heard an engineer's explanation of the findings and recommendations that will be made regarding the proposed multi-million dollar Rodeo Gulch and Glenwood-Upper Soquel dam projects.

In an advance summary report released Sunday, the San Francisco engineering firm of Brown & Caldwell recommended storing San Lorenzo river water behind a dam in Rodeo gulch.

The report favors the \$4,593,000 Rodeo Gulch project over the two-dam Glenwood-Upper Soquel project because it would cost about half as much and produce 50 per cent higher safe annual yield, according to Brown & Caldwell.

If the voters approve the project and elect to pay for it by authorizing an increase in water rates the overall water rate would have to be hiked by "at least 80 per cent," Water Superintendent Weston Webber told the commission.

Present water rates range from 20 cents per 100 cubic feet for low-volume users to seven cents for the highest-volume consumers.

An 80 per cent increase, considered about right to carry a 30-year bond issue, would jump domestic rates from the present 20 cents to 36 cents if put into effect across-the-board.

However, there were strong indications the commission will explore the possibilities of construction on a lesser scale. This would produce less water but the price tag would be easier to meet.

An attempt to bring the issue of river water, against which there is considerable sentiment, into the discussion was short-stopped by Chairman Bert Snyder Jr., who ruled that the purpose of last night's meeting was confined to the contents of the advance report.

"There is no easy, inexpensive solution to the water problems of Santa Cruz," Kenneth Brown of Brown & Caldwell told the commission.

But City Manager Robert Klein and members of the commission, plainly perturbed at the high estimated costs of the two projects carried thus far to the preliminary engineering stage, requested Brown & Caldwell to come up with cost estimates on construction of the Glenwood and Upper Soquel sites separately, rather than in combination.

Brown promised to have the estimates in the mail on Friday. He also agreed to have complete reports on both Rodeo gulch and Glenwood-Upper Soquel in the hands of the water commission by June 20.

This deadline may give the city sufficient time to decide for or against the Glenwood-Upper Soquel project by June 30, when city-held option on Soquel watershed land expires.

Klein and Mayor Paul Forgey repeatedly urged consideration of "stage" construction that would meet the city's needs until 1980 with allowance for expansion, if necessary, after that time.

The Brown & Caldwell estimates, which are based on city water needs up to the year 2000, may be looking "too far ahead," Klein said. He also mentioned the possibility that technological advances may cut production costs in the future or bring the cost of distilling sea water within financial reach of the city.

Brown held out little hope that either approach will prove satisfactory and backed up the advance report's conclusion that the San Lorenzo river offers the city its cheapest and most plentiful water supply in the long run.

The Rodeo gulch and Glenwood-Upper Soquel projects are the only ones for which Brown & Caldwell have been authorized to come up with cost estimates.

But in a discussion of high cost factors Brown tossed in a new angle—the possibility that wells drilled beneath the river may offer a cheap solution to the city's

growing water demands. This approach would rule out expensive dam projects, Brown said.

Last summer the city's water intake from all current sources was barely able to match the demand on the system. The engineers' outlook is that the situation will worsen as the city grows.

Whatever course the commission and city council suggest to meet the problem will be placed before voters for their approval, it was declared emphatically.

Two possible financing methods were mentioned briefly—general obligation bonds, which would probably mean an increase in property taxes, and revenue bonds, which would be backed by a water rate hike.

However, the final report on the two projects is not in and there is no guarantee either will be championed by the commission or council.

(Continued on Page 5)

Ex-Convict Is Sought In New York

Jamestown, N.Y. (AP). — An armed, escaped convict, who kidnaped two detectives, stole their automobile and shot and killed his own companion, was believed holed up in a populated area here today.

More than 200 policemen searched cautiously through a building and clump of brush.

Frightened residents remained in their homes behind locked doors and windows.

The fugitive was identified as James Carter, 32, an auto thief and three-time loser from Rochester. He escaped Saturday night from jail in Watkins Glen, 125 miles east.

His companion in the break, John Dedrick, 23, of Corning, was killed last night at the climax of a bullet-splattered chase over a seven-mile route from Jamestown to Boomertown, center of today's search.

Dedrick died at the wheel of the police car the pair had stolen in Jamestown. Manacled in the back seat were Detectives Earl Stafford and Patrick Whalen.

The car careened into a shed in the Boomertown oil and lumber yard.

Carter was thrown against the dashboard and his revolver discharged, apparently by accident, the detectives said. The bullet hit Dedrick.

Carter jumped from the car and fled into the fields.

The two detectives were not injured.

Ike Says Older Persons Should Get Opportunity

Washington (AP).—President Eisenhower said today the nation needs an older person's wisdom and experience as much as a young man's energy.

He urged that steps be taken to give older citizens an opportunity to continue their usefulness to their communities.

"The skills, wisdom and experience of our older citizens are traits which our nation needs fully as much as the energy and boldness of youth," the president said in a letter to Rep. Hosmer (R-Calif.).

Hosmer is the author of several measures to spur housing, employment and other means of self-help for older persons.