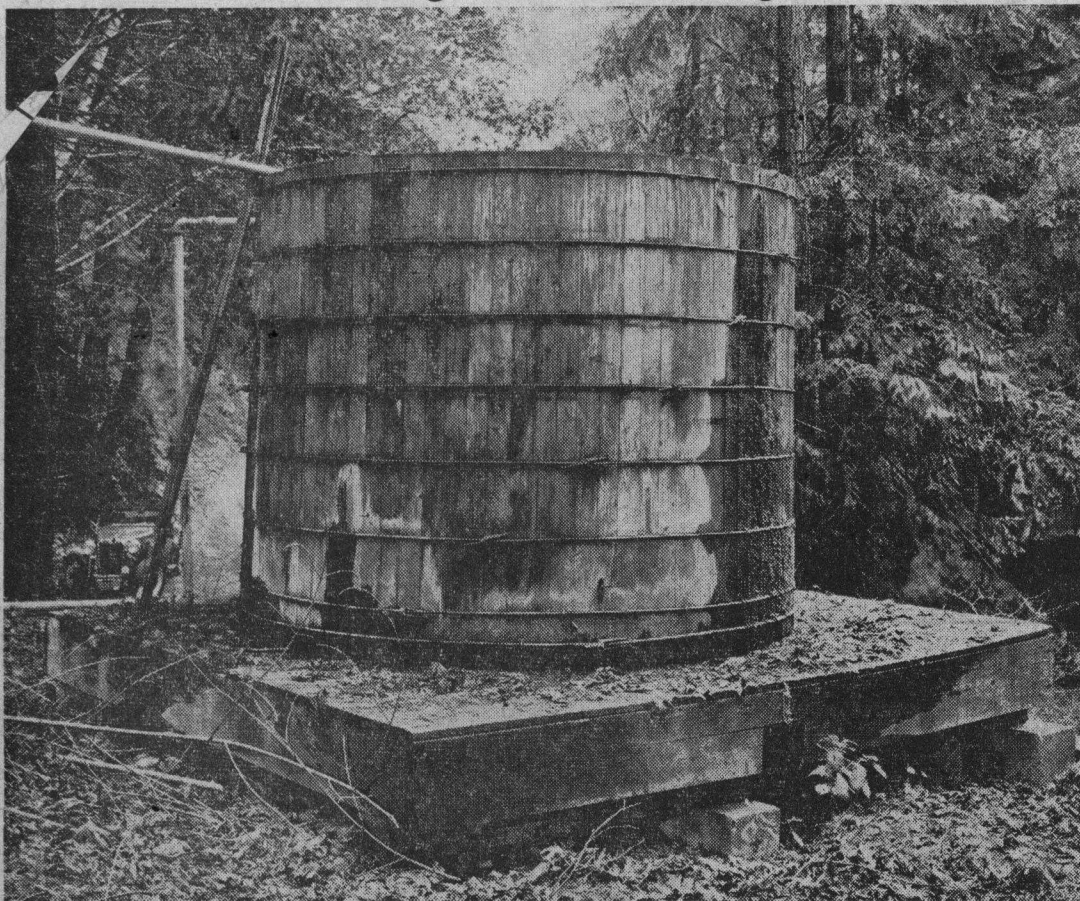


water supply

3-7-56

## Old Watering Tank Still Is Being Used



One of the old county road watering tanks still is in use next to Bonny Doon grade. Moved across the road from where it used to

stand on a high platform, the tank now is the property of the state division of forestry. On moving it, the state replaced the

tank's old flat iron hoops with new ones that can be tightened more easily.

## This Watertank Marked 'Cape Horn' For Teamsters



Fred Dollar got water from this tank, which stood on Bonny Doon grade just below the se-

tion of road the teamsters called "Cape Horn" shortly after the turn of the century. The team in

this picture belonged to N. F. Toft, who was Felton Fire Chief Ted Toft's father.

## Watering Tank Has History Of Service

By Betty Wixcey

On Bonny Doon grade, over the John Robbins spring, there is a 2500-gallon wooden water tank which has seen more than 50 years of service.

Back before the turn of the century it stood on a high platform. Horsedrawn carts used to stop there to fill up, before continuing on to sprinkle the dirt road.

Taken down and relocated across the road from its first site by the state division of forestry, the tank supplies water for hot car radiators on the steep grade now. That use is incidental; the forest rangers bought it from the county and put it on its low platform to keep a ready supply of water for fire protection in the timber country.

Before the early twenties, when the county took to oiling and paving its thoroughfares, the high tanks marked every stream of water along the roadsides in this area, Undersheriff Bud Hendrick recalled this week.

Along the Beach road they stood on ornate concrete stands; wooden posts supported the tanks up in the valley.

Fred Dollar, who was Hendrick's brother-in-law, was one of the contractors who covered 28 miles of roadway, between Santa Cruz and Boulder Creek, every day with his water wagon. Bidding by teamsters for a sprinkling route was highly competitive, Hendrick remembered.

The road sprinklers used to supplement their county income by taking on extra jobs, watering down private driveways along their routes.

Watering was fine to keep down summer dust on horse and wagon roads, but the dampening process was a trial to the first motorists in Santa Cruz county. In the transition period from horse to horsepower, red-faced auto owners used

to labor to pull their hard rubber tires out of muddy ruts.

Hendrick recalled one irate man in one of the new-fangled machines who shouted, on gunning past a teamster in his water cart, "What are you sprinkling the roads for?"

"Eight dollars a day," the sprinkler said. "Giddap."