

# Scotts Valley Voters Consider \$675,000 Water Bonds Tuesday

By Len Klempnauer

Some 950 voters within the Scotts Valley county water district Tuesday will decide the fate of a proposed \$675,000 bond issue to pay for construction of a water system.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Scotts Valley school at 8 Bean Creek road.

The district engineer, Mark Thomas, will be present to help the precinct inspector determine who is in the district. The district does not follow precinct lines.

The project is to be built in two stages, the first using \$400,000 of the bond issue and the second using the remaining \$275,000.

A two-thirds majority vote is necessary to carry the measure.

Proponents of the bond issue have stated the following reasons why the proposal should be approved by the voters:

1. Existing water systems will be renovated, enlarged, and improved so ample water will be available for every resident.

2. Improved storage facilities, larger lines, and new

pumps will insure good water pressure throughout the district.

3. Improved water pressure will provide better fire protection.

4. An adequate and unfailling water supply will enhance property values.

5. Development of the Scotts Valley area will be spurred ahead by a high quality water system.

6. Water rates will be stabilized at \$3 minimum per metered customer. There will be no increase in district taxes to pay bond charges.

Groups which have endorsed a "yes" vote are the Scotts Valley Volunteer fire department, Scotts Valley Realtors, Scotts Valley Property Owners association, Santa Hacienda Mutual Water company, Bethany Park water users, Terrace Mutual Water company, and the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Opponents to the bond issue cite the following reasons:

1. Those who live in the areas under the second stage of construction won't get the system until population warrants

it, which might take many years.

Meanwhile, those in the second stage will be paying taxes on the bond issue although they will not be benefited.

2. Although the bond issue is for \$675,000, at the end of 40 years at 4 1/4 per cent interest, it eventually will cost \$1.5 million.

3. Some 600 home owners will be shouldering the costs until Scotts Valley builds up in population—if and when.

4. Plans for the initial stage will serve only 360 customers and only 445 by 1967.

5. Boundaries of the district are too large for the amount of bonds so opponents believe the bonds will not cover the second stage of construction.

6. The district can appoint its own assessor, who can raise values so revenue can be raised if the bond issue isn't enough.

8. The bond issue will mean the end of medium-priced homes for people on fixed incomes.

A special citizens committee has been formed to urge a "no" vote. Chairman of the group is Joe T. Trammel.