

## Tri-Dam Aid to Sports Anglers And Recreation

By FRED GAMBOLD  
Of the Record Staff

A boon to sports anglers. That's what the Tri-Dam Project means to sportsmen who now can be assured that their valuable trout rivers stemming down the Sierra below the three dams will have a year-around water supply as power is generated and the water is released gradually.

Too, the areas surrounding the impounded waters will make for excellent recreation sites which will benefit anglers as well as boating and enthusiasts along with campers and vacationers.

But at first, in the eyes of the State Department of Fish and Game, the Tri-Dam Project did not meet with approval because of a fear that the release of the impounded waters would not be in accord with biologists' ideas of what is necessary to support fish life.

Patience and study on the part of both the state and the Tri-Dam engineers worked successfully to a compromise and an assurance that such releases would not harm trout and other fish, but in fact would aid fish conservation plans.

And even within the past few weeks, Valley sportsmen have announced an ambitious plan to take advantage of the Tri-Dam waters by spearheading a plan to plant salmon and steelhead in the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and San Joaquin rivers.

The plan, the sportsmen say, cannot fail because of the assurance of water the year-around, and colder water, too, because the snow runoffs would be impounded and held in high elevations and would be released slowly but steadily.

The possibility for the success of such a plan comes from similar plants made in the past five years in the Mokelumne River.

Installation ceremonies will be held during the July meeting. It was announced the annual picnic and barbecue will be held at Fagelman Park June 23. David Brazil will be general chairman. All members and their families are expected to attend.

## New Staff Named by Newman KC Council

NEWMAN, June 14—David Brazil was elected grand knight at a recent meeting of West Side Court, Knights of Columbus. The rest of the staff, chosen the same evening, is composed of: George Teiseler, deputy grand knight; Dick Silveira, chancellor; Alfred Rose, warden; Alvin Costa, recorder; C. J. Affonso, treasurer for the 30th consecutive year; John Matoza, inside guardian; Anthony Fraga, outside guardian; Howard Lassig, advocate; Mike Souza, trustee; Tony Fraga, Six Point chairman; Victor Fonseca, lecturer.

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## Power Sale Bonus Brings Tri-Dam Bids Within Districts' Ceiling

Engineers and irrigation district directors had to do a lot of figuring back in April of 1955, when a lone bid for construction of two units of Tri-Dam development of the middle fork of the Stanislaus River was rejected because it was too high.

The bid was \$32,940,290. The districts had a ceiling of \$31,840,000. The districts' time table for the project set December, 1958 as the completion date and start of full operation at all three powerhouses, which meant construction must be started immediately.

Officials set to work to devise some way to persuade construction people to lower their bids. A new call for bids was sent out, with this inducement to contractors: if the dams and powerhouses, all or any, are completed and producing electricity before December 15, 1958, the contractor will get the money paid by the PG&E for the power up to this date.

This the districts could do without jeopardizing their financing because their financing plans did not include any power revenue until that date.

This bonus offer was all that was needed. In answer to a third call for bids (the first call in 1953 was rescinded because high interest rates made it impossible to finance the project at that time), two combinations of contractors offered bids, \$14,770 apart. Winner was combination of

Morris-Knudsen of Idaho, Peter Kiewit & Sons Co. of Nebraska, Maraca Corp. of Paramount and Stolte Inc. of Oakland. The bid was \$31,199,850.

## Knights Ferry Club Project

KNIGHTS FERRY, June 14—A new project of the Knights Ferry Social Club is the construction of a firehouse to house the community's antique 1871 vintage fire wagon.

Plans are to build a replica of the old firehouse which was demolished in the 1955 flood. President M. E. Shuper is appointing committees on planning and building, finance, publicity, membership, and history. All members will have a part in developing plans for financing of the construction.

Each committee is to select its chairman, the various groups to work under the guidance of the president. Serving in an advisory capacity will be the trustees of the firehouse, J. G. Taylor, Philip Frymire, and Mrs. Lena Kennedy.



**HIS APPROVAL SHOWS**—William "Bill" Kincaid of Ripon radiates his approval while being interviewed on the benefits of the Tri-Dam Project to the South San Joaquin Irrigation District. Young Kincaid apparently never wastes any time in his ranch operations because an interview to him also meant a little time to tighten a few bolts on his seeder being used to plant an additional 100 acres he recently acquired. Bill's ambition is apparent by the success of his ranching operations.

## TUOLUMNE FEELS ECONOMIC IMPACT OF DAM CONSTRUCTION

By H. SMITH JOHNSON  
Of the Record Staff

SONORA, June 14—Construction of the three mighty dams across the Stanislaus River in Tuolumne County created a series of impacts which were felt from Bumblebee to Oakdale along the Sonora Pass Highway.

The first impact, like a minor atom bomb, was the people. All activities stem from people, and this situation was no different.

People, because they must eat, have recreation, and the other necessary things in life, spend money. The spending of money was the first impact felt in Tuolumne County.

This spending started first with the constructors of the dams who purchased building materials, nails, shovels, cement, cars, and trucks.

Then, there were the workers themselves. The maximum number was about a 1,000 but all had families. They needed shoes and groceries. They bought and bought. It was a happy time for the Tuolumne County merchant, and set up what many people feel was a very false economy.

Retail sales, one of the true facts which can be measured, climbed 12 per cent in the county and stayed there for the last two years. This is a million dollar increase, and every merchant got his share.

With dam construction at an end for the time being in the county, wise businessmen are urging their fellows to tighten their belts.

Earl Purdy, manager of Dodge Ridge Ski Slopes, and president of Sonora Pass Vacationland, Inc., bluntly warned of a slight recession when all the dam workers are gone. About 15 new families will be left to operate the dams and take up the slack in the spending which dam workers' money created during the past.

Since people need homes, there was a great scramble for places to live, and this left the impact of new construction on the Tuolumne County community. Homes were at a premium, and many dam workers in the beginning gave long term leases, and agreed to improve cabins and homes for



Assembling one of the dam gates at Todd Plant

## Play Director Hired by City

RIVERBANK, June 14—The City Council hired a third recreation director for the summer at a meeting this week.

John Groll was hired for an eight-week period at a salary of \$100 a week. The council previously had hired Henri Ethier and Neal Casey and both later turned the job down.

This is the first year that the city is handling the recreation program for the city. In previous years the school district has handled the program. The county reimbursed the school district \$778 for last year's program. The school district paid \$2,757 for the full-year program from last June to the present. Included in this expenditure was \$2,448 for salaries, \$229 for supplies, \$56 for lights, and \$23 for water.

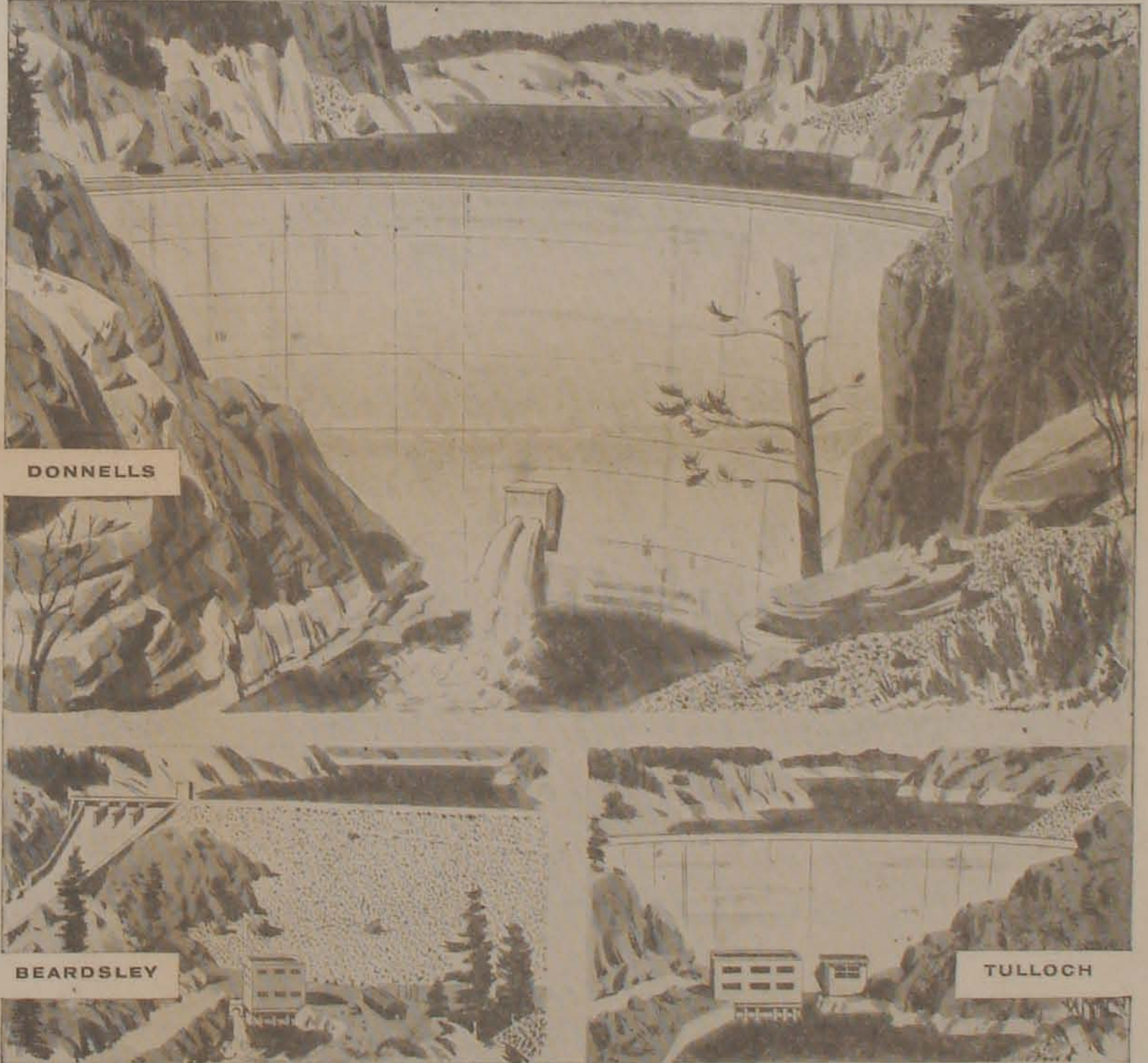
This year, with the city in charge of the operation, the school will provide facilities and services. The cost of these services will be a little more than \$650.

In other business, the council cut the Chamber of Commerce advertising and promotional allowances from \$900 to \$800. Karl Hitchenson, objecting to the cut, said the chamber is trying to get back on its feet this year and has hired a paid secretary-manager. The chamber needs this amount more than the recreation commission needs the \$3,000 that was budgeted for its use, he said.

umne County, and this impact will continue to be felt for months to come as still to be planned recreation areas develop in the wake of the dam construction.

# NEW TRI-DAM

How P. G. & E. works with farmers in the great Tri-Dam Project on the Stanislaus River... to bring more water and electricity to California



On the Stanislaus River, three big dams are nearing completion—a joint project of the Oakdale and South San Joaquin Irrigation Districts, to be dedicated June 15. The Tri-Dam Project means a lot of new irrigation water for the Oakdale, Manteca, Ripon, Escalon and Riverbank areas. On its way to the fields, the water will turn electric generators, producing enough electricity to supply 145,000 homes. P. G. and E. will distribute the power, paying the Irrigation Districts \$115,000,000 for it over a 45-year contract period. This revenue pays for the three dams and powerhouses. Thus a vast new source of irrigation water is provided FREE. And P. G. and E. gets another source of power to serve the growing needs of its customers. P. G. and E. has business arrangements like this with a number of other water development projects in Northern and Central California. And everyone benefits.



John Vrieling, President of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, says this about the P. G. and E. cooperative plan: "The contract with P. G. and E. will give sufficient revenue to meet all the construction, operating and maintenance costs of the project. So the additional water made available to the land owners is free at the canal. And I believe it's a good arrangement for P. G. and E., too, because it provides the Company with another source of power. It's a good deal all around."



Everyone benefits from these time tested joint-development water projects. They help assure plenty of power for growing California, help you live better electrically.



We are proud of our participation in the construction of the Central California Tri-Dam Project

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