

Blind Man Builds Adobe Business

By EDMUND RUCKER

RAMONA, March 20 (Special)—Forrest M. Holly, 32, is blind. Forrest M. Holly is a successful manufacturer of adobe brick and a building contractor. In five years he has built up a large and prosperous business. He is currently engaged in building for customers a pretentious home near Rincon, another at Rancho Santa Fe, another at Escondido.

He specializes in adobe construction. He began his career by starting a brick yard here, adapting modern scientific methods to an ancient Indian and Mexican art.

He found here an adobe soil which is peculiarly adapted to the making of bricks. It is not pure adobe. He has found that 100 percent adobe soil is not good for bricks. It should have a mixture of sand and clay.

LIQUID TAR ADDED

But to this native conglomerate he adds emulsified asphalt which he explains is like liquid tar. This holds the soil together and waterproofs it. Thus it is given a defense against its ancient enemy—water. The "stabilizer" is the magic ingredient which puts into adobe the lasting qualities it formerly lacked.

Traditionally, adobe has been manufactured by plowing a field, sprinkling it with water, and sending Mexican laborers to scatter straw over the surface, mixing it with their bare feet. The mud then was shoveled into forms for drying. Still another method called for the builder of a house to make an excavation for his basement. The soil removed was mixed with water and straw in a trough, then formed into brick.

BUILDS THICK WALLS

In his modern construction Holly builds thick walls, which he asserts, provide so much insulation that the interior is 20 degrees cooler than outside in summer and requires half as much fuel in winter as any other type.

Superior acoustic properties hold noise to a minimum and shut off the sounds between rooms. No termites or other insects show the slightest interest in dry, hard walls—there's not even any straw for them to munch. Walls may be plastered, painted or decorated in any way desired. Most people, says Holly, prefer natural soil color on the outside and soft pastel shades for the interior. Proper construction will give the same earthquake resistance as any other material.

RAMONA CLIMATE IDEAL

In making his bricks, he first places wooden forms on the ground. They are lifted away the same day the adobe is poured.

Accidents Injure 2 Chula Vistans

CHULA VISTA, March 20 (Special)—Two city officials are recuperating at their homes after injuries in accidents. Mayor James L. Hobel sustained a severely injured knee while tobogganing March 11 at Laguna Mountain.

Albert C. Boyer, city attorney, was injured when he fell asleep while driving March 9 and his auto hit a tree at Otay. He was confined for a week at Chula Vista Hospital with fractured ribs and head cuts.

G.I. Dies in Accident

FRANKFURT, Germany, March 20 (UP)—Pfc. Gilbert Sotelo, son of Mrs. Carmen Egare, Brentwood, Calif., was killed Saturday in an accident at Swabach, the Army said today. He was aboard an army vehicle and a truck backed into it.

Group Informed State Ready to Buy Properties

The state is "ready, willing and able" to buy property that is needed for widening Pacific Highway, John C. Webb, district right-of-way agent, informed a property owners' group yesterday.

Webb said the State Highway Commission has funds available "for this specific acquisition." Twenty-one owners, who hold 49 lots between W. Washington and Witherby Sts., have asked the city to remove a 16-year-old requirement for a 22½-foot setback line on the east side of Pacific Highway.

J. A. Donnelley, property owners' attorney, said they believe the state has no definite highway plan for this section and that the state favors a "status quo" condition. He said the highway commission wants to prevent improvement involving the present setback, so the state could be down the cost of eventually acquiring the property.

A multiple-lane highway and an access road are planned. Webb said he could show how the property will be served. He also said the 1950-51 budget contains funds for acquiring any property that might be needed along the highway between Washington St. and the northern city limits. Additional funds will be available in 1951-52, Webb said.

Councilman Charles B. Wincote said he believes the highway department yesterday gave answers which property owners had wanted three months ago.

"You wanted your land purchased," Wincote said. "You have that chance now."

Grenade Hits Office

BAGHDAD, Iraq, March 20 (AP)—A hand grenade was thrown into an entrance of the U. S. Information Service Office here yesterday, injuring four persons—visitors to the office. A man was arrested, but his identity was not disclosed.

COUNTY NEWS

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 21, 1951

Widen Highway, State Division Urged

DEL MAR, March 20 (Special)—The County Development Federation tonight adopted a resolution urging the State Division of Highways to widen Highway 101 to four lanes between Del Mar and Oceanside. The resolution was proposed by Charles Fletcher.

The federation also agreed to vote at their April meeting on a proposed freeway extending from Del Mar to Carlsbad. H. G. Larrick said the proposed freeway would run north from Del Mar paralleling Highway 101 at distances ranging from one-quarter to three-quarters of a mile.

Larrick said the projected freeway would run east of the fairgrounds and from Solana Beach would follow the valley a half mile east of the present highway at Encinitas. It then would be routed east of San Dieguito High School, pass 2000 feet east of the Encinitas business district and about 130 feet east of Highway 101 to Carlsbad.

Larrick said this freeway route has been endorsed by Chamber of Commerce units in the districts through which it would run and also has the backing of Northern San Diego County Chambers of Commerce and the

22nd Agricultural District. Minimum grades of three percent have been proposed for the freeway, he said.

It was pointed out that this freeway stands as an alternate to the route proposed by state engineers, which is closer to the present highway.

Charles Leigh, state highway commissioner, said the main problem involved in the freeway route is getting the right of way. He said efforts are being made to get legislation passed for a bond issue setting up revolving funds to be used for purchase of rights of way. He said that such legislation would prove more economical and would expedite construction. He asked the group's backing for this proposal.

Franklin Barnes of Julian, chairman of a special federation committee, said his group is studying the best means of reapportioning territory in the southern counties, which would give them an added congressional district. He said that a report to the state legislature will be submitted after approval of the federation.

Vets Oppose Date of Fiesta

CHULA VISTA, March 20 (Special)—War veterans objecting to holding the Fiesta de la Luna on Memorial Day have agreed to discuss the matter with Chamber of Commerce representatives March 30 at a meeting of the South Bay Veterans Coordinating Council.

Chamber representatives will be Lloyd Lee, president; Fred Stafford and Joseph Carpineto.

NO CHANGE ORDERED

Walter P. Davis, chamber manager, said he has received no instructions to change the chamber's program, which includes a fiesta parade at 10 a.m. and a horseshow in the afternoon of Memorial Day. The fiesta is scheduled five days beginning May 29.

It was this parade to which the veterans, represented by J. C. Palmer, commander of the veterans' council and of Chula Vista Post, American Legion, objected.

SERVICES HELD

Palmer said the veterans have been holding services for several years at 11 a.m. at Glen Abbey Memorial Park. He said a parade and horse show that day would "desecrate a day set aside to honor our war dead."

He said the co-ordinating council represents 18 units of National City, Chula Vista and other south bay veteran organizations.

DAIRYMEN REELECT

CHICAGO, March 20 (AP)—C. R. Schoby, of Algona, Ia., today was re-elected president of the American Dairy Association.

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