

stock all the way to Santa Paula and beyond.

The cause of the disaster is not decided upon. Faulty construction of the dam is given credence by fewed than might be expected. Specifications called for the emding of the abutments in twelve feet of rock, although one engineer reported that the disaster was caused by the softening of shale in which the cement walls were embedded. Rumors that danger was anticipated failed to gain confirmateion when it was pointed out that no one, not even those in close contact with the dam, had attempted to leave the canyon previous to the disaster.

San Francisquito canyon was frequently used by Antelope Valley residents as one of the routes between here and Saugus en route to Los Angeles. For a short time this summer a portion of the road was closed by a shifting of a large portion of dirt and rock above the dam in the canyon. The reservoir had a capacity of 38,000 acre feet of water and was practically full at the time of the disaster.

Known in this section were Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Holt, formerly of the Southern California Edison Company station at Elizabeth Lake. They were stationed at the Saugus substation and Mr. Holt together with several others were engaged in repairing the oil switch. Hearing the roar of the water, all escaped except Holt who turned back to rescue his wife. Both were drowned. Mrs. Holt was identified in the morgue at Newhall by Mrs. W. W. Gillis of Lancaster.

Louis Burns, his wife and child, were both drowned as well as Mr. and Mrs. Harry Burns and their two children. The two men were the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burns of Leona Valley, and the drowned families were well known there. Mrs. Louis J. Burns is a sister of Mrs. Edith Page of Palm-dale.

A camp of the Edison company in which 150 men were stationed below Saugus was in the path of the flood. Only forty-three bodies have been recovered. Many of the men were known here among valley employes of the company.

J. H. Harrison, Edison company patrolman stationed in the valley, was among those from here rushed from here to the scene of the disaster. Harrison stated that in

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