



(Herald photos by Russ Cain)

Carmel Sanitary District sewage treatment plant is now operating.

## New Carmel Sewage Plant Put Into Operation Today

By Margo Burke  
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Carmel Sanitary District's new \$3 million sewage treatment plant went into operation at 6:15 a.m. today.

Initially, it is providing only primary treatment of sewage but secondary treatment will begin within a few days, plant manager Max Drewein reported.

The new plant replaces a balky and overloaded plant which, originally funded by the Works Progress Administration, had been in service since 1939.

### Complex

After 20 months of work and considerable delays, due mainly to strikes in supplier plants, the vast complex with 40 motors, 20 pumps, agitators for aeration and a network of instrument panels is all in place.

In addition, the extension of the ocean outfall, required by State Water Quality Control Board authorities and completed at mid-year, will also be used for the first time.

What will the new plant do? It can handle three million gallons of sewage a day. The present flow is about 1.6 million, allowing ample expansion to include adjacent areas which may wish to join the district.

### Present District

Carmel Sanitary District now serves all of the city of Carmel, Carmel Meadows, Carmel Knolls, South Carmel Hills, Pebble Beach, and some parts of lower Carmel Valley. Eventually the district may supply service to the Carmel Valley up to the village.

Currently district engineers are conducting a comprehensive study of various treatment and disposal possibilities, including land disposal.

Talks have been held con-

cerning the purchase of the 292-acre Odello artichoke fields, immediately adjacent to the plant for the disposal of waste water and for flood plain protection. The Odello fields have been irrigated by some of the waste wa-

ters from the sanitary plant since 1947. Should they be acquired by the district, the land could be planted in a high water-use crop, such as alfalfa, proponents of the plan have said.

Current members of the board at Rancho Shopping Center. The next scheduled meeting is at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 9. Current members of the board are Earl Moser, president; Wentworth Lewis, James Pruitt, Herman Schull and Ted Weller.

