

Rackets Springing Up Around New Marina Project, Chapel Says

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL, Assemblyman, 46th District
The Playa del Rey Harbor, now known as the Marina del Rey Harbor, was originally set in motion by a California State Loan authorized by Assemblyman Lester H. McMillan and I, but after we got the harbor started everything thereafter has been run by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Recently, the Marina del Rey (Playa del Rey) Harbor has been the subject of many rackets, but these are outside of the scope of the duties of the California State Legislature, hence you should direct your complaints on this subject to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and not to Members of the California State Legislature.

IN ABOUT SIX months the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will call for bids on the first \$30,000,000 worth of concessions to be put up by private investors at the Marina del Rey Harbor.

Already people who call themselves "expeditors" are claiming that they have an "inside track" and can get concessions plus choice sites for yacht clubs, anchorages for small boats, restaurants, motels, etc., if they are paid substantial fees in advance. However, anyone who enters in relations with these "expeditors" will learn that they do not sign any legally binding contracts in which they promise to deliver anything. William B. McKesson, District Attorney of Los Angeles County, already has put the "heat" on one "expeditor" who has been selling memberships at \$1,000 apiece, with the verbal promise that he has "everything sewed up" and that upon payment of the fee the new member will be assured of a yacht or small boat anchorage plus many other benefits.

In addition, he promised that his suckers will get a special reduced lease rate from Los Angeles County! Please permit me to emphasize that if you have a complaint on this subject, you must send it in writing to the District Attorney, and a copy to your own County Supervisor.

A MINIMUM RENTAL will be charged on each piece of property, whether it is a yacht or boat anchorage or a place of business. Competing operators of concession will then bid on the basis of this basic rental plus a percentage of their gross revenues to be paid to Los Angeles County. The highest responsible bidder gets the lease. However, if anyone bids and then does not make enough money, he still must pay the County the amount he bid because the County is not responsible for poor management.

In awarding concessions and leases, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors must make certain that the taxpayers, the bondholders, and the customers of the harbor are not defrauded or overcharged.

HOWEVER, those who want something from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors are leaning over their shoulders night and day. You and I must make ourselves heard in order to be sure that everything is right.

When you write to the District Attorney or any County Supervisor, send me a carbon copy of your letter and then tell me what answer you get. If you are not treated fairly, the Legislature may be able to exercise some degree of control later.

The State Senate of the California State Legislature should have been reappointed many years ago. One State Senator from Los Angeles County represents a county that sends 31 members of the Assembly to Sacramento.

THE ONE outstanding

champion of this cause in the whole history of California has been County Supervisor Frank G. Bonelli, a Democrat who sat near me in the Assembly for several years and is a close, personal friend of mine.

He has talked to city councils, chambers of commerce, women's clubs, service clubs and everywhere he could get an audience. All who have heard him are for his plan.

IN ALL HIS talks, he has emphasized that Los Angeles County is getting a raw deal on defense plant taxes, smog control, road funds, and water plan guarantees, which means the essential elements of the so-called California Water Plan (sometimes called Feather River Project), unfavorable to Southern California.

If you believe that Southern California, which includes where you live, right now, should have a fair deal, write to Frank G. Bonelli, Chairman of the Board, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, 220 N. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif., and tell him Chapel said to write to him.

Tithing Still Worthy Ideal, Rector Claims

This is the time of year when a great many churches conduct their organized campaigns for support in the coming year. There has been a notable increase in church membership and attendance in Torrance, and all over the United States, during the past few years. A question which arises continually is: "How much shall I give my church?"

Father Hugh R. Percy, who is past president of the Ministerial Assn. in Torrance, and Rector at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, has answered this question of giving in somewhat the following manner. He emphasizes that he speaks for his parish only.

In effect he has said that the ancient Biblical injunction to tithing by giving one-tenth of our income to the church each year is still a valid and worthy ideal. Many churches advocate and strive to practice this plan. However, it is recognized that there are numerous community charities that deserve support, the Red Cross, the Community Chest, and many others.

Therefore, some church leaders, Episcopalian priests among them, have evolved an objective which they term: "Modern Tithing," an idea which proposes to give five per cent to community charities and five per cent to the church. In practice this plan suggests \$1 per week per \$1000 of annual income to the church and a like amount to local and national charities. This plan recognizes current economic conditions, Father Percy says.

Bake Sale
St. Monica's Guild, Mrs. Bill Hopkins leader, will hold its monthly bake sale on the grounds of St. Philomena's church, 21900 S. Main St., Sunday, Nov. 8. Baked goods and candy will be on sale.

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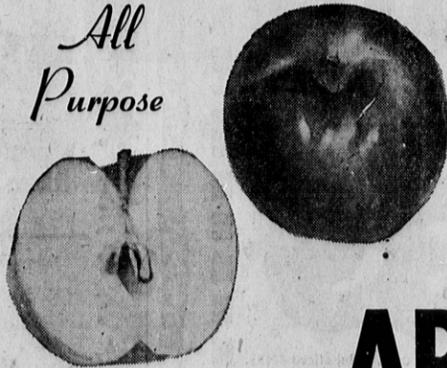
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