

Long Beach Tidelands Oil Contract Under Heavy Fire

By VINCENT THOMAS
Assemblyman, 68th District

Apart from the federal government, the State is probably the largest land-owner in California. Its holdings range from a small plot of less than half an acre to thousands of acres in some state parks, and includes many square miles of tidelands and other submerged areas. Revenues from these lands are an important factor in the annual state budget. Every taxpayer benefits from these revenues.

Biggest single source of revenue to the state from its lands is that of tidelands oil operations. Under a 25-year contract with private companies in partnership with the City of Long Beach for oil operations in the southern city's harbor, the state and city have received almost \$100 million apiece. This contract is due to expire soon, and a new one is in process of development.

The terms of the existing contract have come in for considerable criticism from several members of the Legislature. Recently the Joint Legislative Audit Committee held a hearing on a proposed new 25-year contract, and the complaints were discussed at some length.

THE STATE lands commission, which has control over the lands involved, has under consideration a contract, with approximately the same present holders. It would increase the percentage of the net profits which is divided between the state and the city.

The commission estimated total return to each during the life of the contract at around \$115 million each. Staff of the committee, however, estimated the return as being about the same as under the present con-

Cite Need For Grads As Officers

In an attempt to meet an increasing demand for qualified officers to fill key executive positions, the United States Air Force has announced a stepped up program of officer training for college graduates.

The program offers both men and women who hold college degrees commissions as second lieutenants upon completion of a three-month officer training program.

College seniors may apply before graduation, according to Sgt. Clark B. Graham, local Air Force recruiter. Applications may be submitted up to 210 days before graduation. Final acceptance will be made after graduation.

Applicants must be between 20½ and 27½ years of age, a citizen of the United States, and meet the prescribed physical standards. Women must be single and have no dependents.

Detailed information about the program may be obtained by calling Graham at FA8-1404, or by visiting the Torrance Air Force Recruiting Station, 1616 Cabrillo Ave.

Navy Opens Electronics Programs

Because of an ever-increasing need for qualified technical personnel to maintain numerous electronic equipment aboard ships and at shore installation, the United States Navy has opened its Electronics Training Program for direct enlistment.

Chief Vandorne E. Isaak, Navy recruiter, said men between 17 and 31 who are high school graduates may enlist directly into the training program.

Enlistees who meet the basic qualifications for the program will be guaranteed one of 15 electronic training schools. Courses are from 14 to 37 weeks long.

Detailed information about the program may be obtained from Isaak at the Recruiting Station, 1529 Cravens Ave., from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. any day except Sunday.

Courage is, on all hands, considered as an essential of high character. — James Anthony Froude

tract because of higher taxes which will be levied by the County of Los Angeles and the City of Long Beach on the "possessory interest" of the drilling companies.

Under the existing arrangement between the state and the city, they share these oil revenues on a fifty-fifty basis. The city is required to spend its share only for harbor purposes, subject to approval of the lands commission.

THE STATE director of finance told the committee he believes that the state should receive more than half the net proceeds. City officials of Long Beach agreed that the present split is not equitable, but asked that the state-supported program of water injection to halt subsidence caused by drilling be continued, as well as the maintenance of the airport and several buildings constructed from oil funds.

The committee was told that

the split between state and city might be put in the Governor's call for a special session to run concurrently with the 1964 budget session. It was also suggested that the existing contract be extended by the Legislature to permit working out a more favorable deal with the operators.

One witness asserted that the present operators have made a 10,000 per cent return on their investment during the life of the contract. One Senator said that under the proposed contract, the operators would not be putting up a nickel, and would not even own the necessary equipment. Another complained that the state lands commission has never made a survey of the tidelands it controls, so there are no descriptions available, and oil potentials are unknown.

From what went on, oil seems a very likely topic to come before us in February or March.

Law in Action

In a good many crimes there are few witnesses to help police. They usually have to piece facts together to find the criminal.

Evidence may point strongly to him, but often the available facts alone may not be enough to convict him beyond a reasonable doubt. During police questioning he often puts enough of the pieces together to convict himself.

BUT POLICE questioning must be fair, to stand up in court it cannot be forced or brutal. Long questionings without food, water, or sleep may make a confession useless as court evidence. Even psychological pressure on the accused, his family, or friends may cast legal doubt on a "confession."

The accused has right to a lawyer. When arrested, California allows him to make a phone call to his family or his lawyer. His lawyer often advises him to help the police if he can, but not to incriminate himself.

Once he has named his lawyer, the accused's legal affairs are in his hands, but the police may talk to him in his lawyer's absence.

IN A RECENT case the accused's lawyer got him free on bail. While out, Jones talked to a friend upon whom the police had put a "bug," a listening device. During the talk Jones said some things which led to his conviction.

Upon appeal to a high court Jones claimed that his trial was not fair since his lawyer was not present during the talks. But the court ruled against him. He had made his admissions without pressure, nor need his lawyer have been present at the discussion.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.



RECEIVES AWARD . . . Keith Sutter (center) accepts the first place prize in the fifth annual Chemistry IAB achievement awards at El Camino College from William Mooney (right), director of instruction. Warren Ford, Sutter's instructor, smiles with approval. Sutter was named the winner of the prize, which carries a certificate and a \$50 check from an anonymous donor, for his excellence in chemistry.

GROCERY SPECIALS

<p>CAMPBELL'S — 10½-OZ. CAN</p> <h2>TOMATO SOUP</h2> <h1>10¢</h1> <p>ea.</p>	<p>COCK O' WALK — SLICED OR HALF</p> <h2>PEACHES</h2> <h1>19¢</h1> <p>No. 2½ Can</p>	<p>COLUMBIA — 303 SIZE — FANCY</p> <h2>SAUERKRAUT</h2> <h1>10¢</h1> <p>ea.</p>
<p>CHICKEN OF SEA, No. ½ Can</p> <p>SOLID WHITE MEAT</p> <h2>TUNA</h2> <h1>3 For \$1</h1>	<p>USDA CHOICE</p> <p>Meat Buys</p> <p>Beef Shoulder</p> <h2>ROAST</h2> <h1>49¢</h1> <p>lb</p>	<p>WELCH'S — 24-oz. Bottle</p> <h2>GRAPE JUICE</h2> <h1>3 For \$1</h1>
<p>KITCHEN CHARM</p> <p>WAX PAPER</p> <h1>15¢</h1>	<p>VEG-ALL — NO. 303 CAN</p> <p>MIX VEGETABLES 3 FOR</p> <h1>49¢</h1>	<p>NORLEY'S — ½ GALLON BOTTLE</p> <p>BLEACH</p> <h1>25¢</h1>
<p>3 MINUTE — LARGE 42-OZ.</p> <p>QUICK OATS</p> <h1>39¢</h1>	<p>ALL MEAT (In Meat Dept.)</p> <p>BOLOGNA</p> <h1>49¢</h1>	<p>CINCH — CHOICE OF FLAVORS</p> <p>CAKE MIXES</p> <h1>5 FOR \$1</h1>
<h3>Season's Best PRODUCE</h3>		
<p>SWEET, JUICY RED DELICIOUS</p> <h2>APPLES</h2> <h1>10¢</h1> <p>lb</p>	<p>EASTERN LEAN</p> <p>PORK STEAKS</p> <h1>49¢</h1> <p>lb</p>	<p>HORMEL'S VALUE BRAND</p> <h2>BACON</h2> <h1>3 lbs \$1</h1>
<p>SWEET JUICY ARIZONA</p> <p>GRAPEFRUIT</p> <h1>5¢</h1>	<p>LONGHORN (In Meat Dept.)</p> <p>CHEESE</p> <h1>49¢</h1> <p>lb</p>	<p>FRESH, LEAN</p> <p>GROUND BEEF 39%</p> <h1>3 LBS \$1</h1>
<p>LARGE SIZE FUERTE</p> <p>AVOCADOS</p> <h1>10¢</h1>	<p>ALL MEAT (In Meat Dept.)</p> <p>BOLOGNA</p> <h1>49¢</h1>	<p>NEW CROP NEGLT NORR</p> <p>DATES</p> <h1>19¢</h1> <p>12-oz. Pkg.</p>
<h3>MORENO'S MEXICAN FOODS</h3>		
<p>CHOICE OF . . .</p> <p>16-oz. Mexican Dinner</p> <p>15-oz. Beef Enchilada Dinner</p> <p>or Beef Tacos</p> <h1>39¢</h1>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> FOLGER'S COFFEE 1-LB. 67¢ 2-LBS. 1.31 3-LBS. 1.85 </div>	
<p>Purex Liquid Bleach, ½ Gal. Plastic 45¢</p> <p>Sunshine Hydrox Cookies, 1-lb. 49¢</p> <p>Reynolds Wrap Foil 33¢</p> <p>Sunshine Krispy Crackers, 1-lb. 33¢</p> <p>Sweetheart Soap, Reg. Bath Size 3 for 35¢</p> <p>Trend Liquid Detergent, Giant 69¢</p>		

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