

Against . . .

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2. The makeshift nature of his estimates is further indicated by the absence of a city tax. There are 46 established incorporated cities in this county, and every one of them levies a city tax, running as high as \$1.87 per \$100 valuation. To say that Lomita could operate per-

manently without a city tax is ridiculous. We have no wizards in government administration here.

3. We take exception to the manner of estimating the sales tax. It was based upon a three month period of unprecedented building activity in Lomita which simply cannot be maintained in our limited area. This unusually high quarterly figure was multiplied by 5 instead

of 4 to produce a totally unrealistic figure which takes no account of our local conditions. To incorporate on this type of estimate is to invite disaster. Building must taper off for lack of space in which to build, and sales tax will go down drastically. Lomita residents buy most of their taxable goods in Torrance, Long Beach and Los Angeles.

Lomita could contract with the county, and pay for services we are already getting, in his expenditures he blissfully ignores most of these contracts, together with the item of overhead charged by the county under them. This enables him to balance the budget—on paper.

5. His figures show revenue from building permits and inspections, but he omits salaries and expenses. Cities do not make a profit from this source. Salaries and expenses distinguish receipts. County contracts with cities all contain provisions for payment to the County by the city when costs exceed receipts, a condition sure to exist in a small area like Lomita.

6. We take exception to the surgical operation performed on the tax rate. Lomita Lighting District, now on the tax bills, is summarily removed and an equivalent amount inserted in expenses, thus effecting a fake reduction in taxes. It makes no difference to the taxpayer how the accounting is done—he pays in any event.

7. Lomita Park. Halferty said publicly that nobody but an idiot would cut off funds from the park. We have his published figures where he did just that. This time, however, he is satisfied to merely slash thousands from its budget. This helps his estimates—but not the park. We refuse to incorporate and get less than we are getting now.

8. Police Protection. We now have one patrol car full time and one half time. Lomita people have demanded more police protection and we are assured by the Sheriff's Department that 2 full time patrol cars will soon be assigned to Lomita. On Page 8 of "The Lakewood Plan" published by Los Angeles County we find the following: "The City of Lakewood reimburses the County for these services (one full time patrol car) on a cost basis as prescribed in the General Services Agreement, currently \$5,762 per month."

This is \$69,144 a year for one car, or \$138,288 for the two cars which Lomita will soon have. Halferty graciously allows us one patrol car and one traffic car for \$90,000. We refuse to incorporate and take less than we are getting now.

9. We can see no necessity for 6 full-time and two part-time jobs in a village that will contract with the County for practically all municipal functions.

The Citizens Committee Opposing Incorporation of Lomita has made a survey of revenues and disbursements for the proposed City of Lomita, based upon maintenance of present levels of services furnished under county administration. These figures were compiled through consultation with government departments, officials of neighboring cities, and others with ample experience in these matters. The contracts made by the County with cities were also studied.

The detailed results are presented herewith. This shows

that the incorporation of Lomita is not feasible from a financial standpoint, and the utter futility of the argument that the city could be operated without a city tax. Expenditures would exceed income by over \$95,000 per year.

Our committee urges that the move to incorporate Lomita be abandoned, at least until such time as pending legislation pertaining to the formation of buroughs has been decided. If the proponents of incorporation really have the welfare of Lomita people at heart, we should have the chance to choose between these two forms of local government. The delay involved will not be excessive and will not be detrimental to the community.

BUDGET ESTIMATE REVENUES:

1. Gas tax—\$36,168.
2. County gas tax—\$7,645.
3. Auto license—\$56,494.
4. Liquor license—\$4,080.
5. Business licenses—\$8,000.
6. Traffic fines—\$10,000.
7. Building permits—no net revenue. Salaries and expenses extinguish receipts.
8. Utility franchises—\$6000.
9. Sales tax—\$89,600.
10. Total, \$216,987.

EXPENDITURES:

1. City Council salaries (must pay to get good service)—\$5000.
2. City salaries (others) \$33,800.
3. Health Department special services—\$500.
4. Street Construction and Maintenance—\$52,813.
5. Emergency hospital and ambulance not collectible—\$500.
6. License enforcement, inspection—\$790.
7. Police Dept. Two cars at \$69,144 each \$138,288.
8. City prosecution—\$2000.
9. Planning Commission—\$2000.
10. County jail—\$1000.
11. Lomita park—\$30,000.
12. Juvenile detail—\$1000.
13. Rental city hall, council chambers, office equipment and

Incorporation . . .

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not say things like that about your neighbors." Halferty presented his findings at a meeting of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce. His figures as well as his philosophical feelings made an impressive showing.

"The fact that there are 331 cities in California now and

supplies, phones, printing, janitor service—\$6000.

14. Special night watchmen in business district—\$7,210.

15. Overhead on services from county, 27% on about \$80,000—\$21,600.

16. Miscellaneous—\$10,000.

17. Total expenditures—\$312,501.

DEFICIT:

1. \$95,514.

that, population-wise, Lomita would be among the upper 50 percent of these cities should alleviate the fear that local government is something to be afraid of," he said. "Local government is as natural as marriage. You have problems in incorporation just as you have in marriage."

"I believe the residents of Lomita have the maturity and wisdom to take local government which is a peculiarly American heritage and make it work," he continued. "No government comes into being without birth-pains."

He explained that some of this country's founding fathers whose names now appear on the Declaration and Constitution were originally against the idea.

"Enmities and animosities are as ancient as the fight

over local government itself," he declared. "I ask above all that those who are opposed (to incorporation) won't impugn the motives of their neighbors who are working for it."

Major controversial points which Halferty made were as follows:

1) That incorporation would result in an estimated total income for Lomita in its first year of \$292,640, and estimated expenditures of \$248,700, leaving an unappropriated surplus of \$43,940.

2) That by incorporation the city of Lomita could achieve a tax reduction by eliminating the cost to the taxpayer of the Road District No. 4 and the Lomita Lighting District, for an estimated tax saving of \$0.2238 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

3) That sales tax revenues would amount to \$112,000.

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RULES OF CONTEST
1. Each contestant must come to our store and officially register for the contest. 100 Free Votes given for registering.
2. The boy or girl with the greatest number of votes at the end of the contest is the winner.
3. One vote is given for each penny spent on new shoes in our store. Votes may be cast by the contestant, or by friend or relative who buys shoes. Votes once cast may not be transferred to another contestant.
4. We will give 10 votes for each pair of worn shoes tied together and brought into our store on Mondays during the contest. Entrant is limited to 100 pair of shoes per Monday. (Worn shoes to be donated to Charity.)
5. Every Tuesday is Adult Registration Day, in which we give 25 free votes to each adult who comes in and votes for his favorite contestant. No purchase is necessary to get these free votes.
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