

To Meet Urban Problems

Hahn Seeks Major Changes in County

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has called for sweeping changes to be made in county government to help solve the growing urban problems of today.

They are:
• Increase the members of the Board of Supervisors from five to seven in 1970, to nine in 1975, and to 11 in 2005.
• Provide for an elected county mayor as the county's chief executive.
• Create an elective office of

county superintendent of public instruction.
"The first two changes would require an amendment to the county charter, approved by the voters of Los Angeles County," Hahn said.

"The third would require an amendment to the state constitution, approved by the voters of California."
IN PROPOSING the increase in supervisors, Hahn explained

a county of 7,155,000 persons deserves more direct representation than five supervisors can give.

"Five supervisors have represented the people of Los Angeles County since 1852, when the population was only 4,800," Hahn said.

"On supervisor now represents more than 1.4 million people. This means he represents more people than do the governors in each of 15 states."

Hahn believes the formula to be used in determining the number of supervisors should be based on population, one supervisor for each one million persons and increases made by twos.

"ACCORDING to Regional Planning Commission estimates, there will be 9 million people in the county in 1985," Hahn said. "The number of supervisors

should be increased to nine at that time.

"In the year 2005, when the population will reach 11 million, the Board of Supervisors should be increased to 11 members and frozen at that point."

An elected county mayor would be an innovation in California, Hahn said, although 12 counties in the United States have an elected executive.

"Vice President Spiro Agnew was the elected executive of

Baltimore County before he was governor of Maryland," Hahn said.

THE SUPERVISOR explained the Board of Supervisors presently is an executive as well as legislative body and is charged with the administration of all county departments.

"Good administration requires that one person be responsible and accountable for the func-

tions of any organization," Hahn said.

"A county mayor would have the county's interests as a whole in mind. With supervisors elected by districts, there often tends to be a district approach to county government rather than a countywide approach."

The county mayor would have administrative responsibilities and veto power and the Board of Supervisors would have legislative authority, Hahn said of his proposal.

THE PRESENT office of chief administrative officer would remain basically the same, with the officer advising both the

county mayor and Board of Supervisors.

Hahn's proposal for an elected county superintendent of public instruction would result in the powers presently held by the state superintendent and State Department of Education being transferred to Los Angeles County.

There is a crisis in our schools and the state superintendent of public instruction and the State Board of Education have failed to make any basic changes in curriculum during the last 50 years," Hahn said.

"The present crisis calls for a new approach to meeting educational demands."

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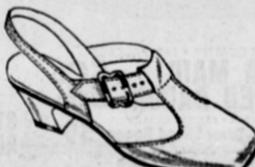
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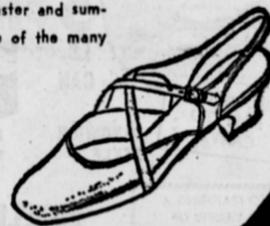
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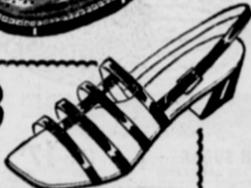
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