

Citizens Committee Aids State Legislators in Planning Growth

By VINCENT THOMAS
 Assemblyman, 65th District
 Real progress requires constant study and frequent changes in the established order of things. That holds true of legislative procedure and practices as well as other matters. California's continuous growth and the resulting increase in volume of legislative activity requires further improvement of such procedures in the interests of efficiency.

Two years ago a Citizens Legislative Advisory Commission was formed to advise the Legislature on improving and streamlining its operations. In 1957, existence of the commission was extended by law until after the 1959 session. Your legislators felt that an impartial citizens' group could objectively review the organization and functioning of the Legislature.

SIXTY-EIGHT leaders of various groups from all over the state serve as members of the commission. Represented are agriculture, business, civic associations, education, law, labor, the press and women's organizations. Many members have worked closely with the Legislature, and several have served in one or other of its houses.

The law authorized the commission to study any phases of operations that it believes may

improve the legislative process. Six committees have been appointed to carry on detailed investigation in various fields and, among them, almost 50 meetings have been held. The commission has had assistance from the University of California, and has retained outside consultants to assist in research.

THE COMMISSION completed and transmitted to the Legislature two major reports, in 1957 and again this year. Recently, it released a comprehensive "Progress Report to the Citizens of California," which discusses all of its recommendations to date for changes in our Constitution and laws relating to the Legislature. Proposed Constitutional amendments which have developed from two commission recommendations will appear on the November ballot. Prop-

osition 5700, relating to the salaries of legislative officers, and Nine, which would eliminate the constitutional recess from regular sessions and change time limits on bill introduction. In addition to these, the commission has also recommended that elimination of budget session in even numbered years be seriously studied. It disapproved a proposal that the Legislature be reconvened after each session to take up measures vetoed by the Governor.

SIGNAL PIONEER
 First traffic light in New York City was erected in 1920 at the crossing of 42nd St. and Fifth Ave.

By George Sixta

VIRGIL



By Lew Kleis RIVETS



SUPERMAN



RED RYDER



By Fred Herman