

# State Government Has Growing Pains

By VINCENT THOMAS  
 Assemblyman, 68th District

Growing pains affect our California state government, just as they do our children. Skirts and slacks must be replaced by larger outfits, as the young ones grow. Larger and larger office and service quarters must be provided as the state meets the ever-increasing demands of its constantly swelling population.

The problems and costs involved in providing this additional space were explored at a recent meeting of a subcommittee of the Assembly ways and means committee. The group was told that the state is in a constant struggle to find office space for its employees. Rising costs are a big factor in getting either state-owned or leased facilities.

THE SPOKESMAN for the state finance department told the meeting that taxpayers generally get a break when the state owns its buildings, rather than leases them from private owners. "Our studies show a strong saving factor when the state constructs its buildings," he said.

As an example of the expansion factor for which the state must allow, he predicted that the number of state employees working in downtown Sacramento will double in the next generation. The number of state workers in cities all over the state will also grow rapidly. In outlining the construction program for the state, he listed a number of cities, outside the Capital, which now have, or in the future will have a state-owned building. From San Diego to Redding, from Santa Rosa to San Bernardino, the state will be erecting its new structures.

For years, the state financed much of its building on a pay-as-you-go basis. In 1955, the voters approved a \$200 million bond issue for general state construction purposes, but the proceeds have now been used up, so other sources of funds have been sought, pending submission of a new bond issue to the electorate.

MOST RECENT buildings have been financed through sale of trust certificates to the state employees retirement system. In response to a question from a committee member, it was brought out that the interest rate on such certificates exceeds four per cent. In contrast, state bond issues recently sold, such as those for school construction and veterans loans, have gone for interest rates well under that figure.

The group was also presented with a detailed statistical analysis, prepared by the staff of the legislative analyst, of comparative costs between those for state-owned buildings and for space in leased private quarters. Comparisons were made between costs of six state structures in various cities, and those of 14 locations in private quarters. Without allowance for local property taxes which the state does not pay, costs for the most recent year in state buildings ranged from \$3.40 per square foot to \$4.58. Costs in private buildings, including taxes, ran from \$3.00 to \$4.97. But the lower cost leases all contain an "escalator" clause under which rents go up if taxes are raised. In addition, state-owned buildings give another advantage in that they contain extra useable space, such as that in conference rooms, auditoriums, or laboratories, for which the state would have to pay extra rent in private buildings.

The group was told that since the state now pays its landlords in excess of \$5.5 million in rent each year, the leasing problem is not small. But, generally, not enough efficient private space is available.

Airman Basic Katsuechi Kakuda, son of Hisayo Kakuda of 21123 Water, is being assigned to the United States Air Force technical training course for radar operators at Keesler AFB, Miss.

Airman Kakuda, who has completed his basic military training at Lackland AFB, Tex., was selected for the advanced course on the basis of his interests and aptitudes.

The airman, a graduate of Banning High School, attended Harbor Junior College, both in Wilmington.



SCOUT EXECUTIVE RICHARD CARTER To Advise Harbor Committees

## Carter Named Advisor To Area Scout Groups

Richard Carter, 23, of 1023 Portola Ave., has been named new field executive in Harbor District of the Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

He attended Newport Harbor Union High School and Orange Coast College, majoring in business and winning letters in swimming. Carter is also a graduate of the National Training School for Boy Scout Executives in Mendham, N.J. Carter will be assigned to advise the training, camping, and advancement committees in Harbor District. He will work with district executive J. R. (Dick) Loquvam of 4744 Reese Road, and assistant district executive Roger Pelz, 2439 Denison, San Pedro.

HARBOR DISTRICT encompasses the communities of San Pedro, Torrance, Harbor City, Wilmington, Gardena, and Dominguez. Carter is a member of the Torrance First Methodist Church. He and his wife, Lynne, have a 6-month-old son, Daniel. Carter was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Explorer, and was chosen for membership in Order of the Arrow, national honor camping society associated with the Boy Scouts of America. Later, he served as assistant scoutmaster. He served 18 months in the Air Force. He is a musical comedy fan, and appeared in musicals while in college and the Air Force.

A special birthday party here has marked the 10th anniversary of the Southern California Gas Co.'s Southwest Division headquartered in Inglewood, according to an announcement this week by G. M. Babbe, division manager for the utility. In making the announcement, Babbe said that more than 400 employees and their wives or husbands attended the special open house at the company headquarters at 158 S. La Brea Ave., celebrating 10 years of service to residents of the Southwest area.

THE SOUTHWEST division of the gas company was formed just one month over 10 years in 1951. At that time, it included 256 employees serving some 95,000 customers in the communities of Redondo Beach, Torrance, Palos Verdes Estates, Manhattan Beach, Rolling Hills, Hermosa Beach, Gardena, Lennox, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Morningside Park, Westchester, El Segundo, and Lomita.

At the present time, pointing up the growth of the Southland during post-World War II years, Babbe explained that the Southwest Division includes more than 185,000 customers in roughly the same territory, and employs some 313 people.

BEFORE THE formation of the present Southwest division of operations the area was served by both the company's Southern Division headquartered in Compton and the central division in metropolitan Los Angeles.

L. E. Green, area resident and now manager of the gas company's customer department, was the first manager of the new division, serving until 1955. He was followed by E. F. Hawkesworth, currently manager of the firm's Special Services Department, who held the position until 1956, and C. W. Shupp, who is now manager of the gas company's new metropolitan division in Los Angeles. G. M. Babbe was named manager of the division in 1959.

The birthday celebration and open house for employees included traditional cake cutting and buffet dinner as well as novel appliance demonstrations for party guests.

Cleon D. Loyd, commissaryman second class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence D. Loyd of 5520 Towers St. is serving aboard the destroyer USS Ault, operating with the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

## Anniversary Celebrated By Gas Co.

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## Navy Seeks Control Rep

The Navy has reannounced the examination to fill the position of quality control representative, GS-9 and GS-11 starting at \$6,435 and \$7,560 per year. These positions are located at various activities under the office of the Supervising Inspector of Naval Material throughout California. The majority of the jobs are located in the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. Applications will be accepted until further notice. Appointments will be on a career-conditional basis.

For complete information and application forms, contact the Twelfth Naval District Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Federal Office Building, San Francisco 2; the Twelfth U. S. Civil Service Region, 630 Sansome St., San Francisco 11, or ask at any post office where such information may be obtained.

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