

WATSON DECLARES

Taxpayers Would Lose If Assessor Appointed

County Assessor Philip E. Watson has warned that changing the office of assessor from an elected to an appointed one would tend to increase pressures on the assessor for special treatment and lessen the taxpayer's ability to challenge the assessor's decisions.

Addressing a Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce luncheon sponsored by the Chamber's State and Local Government Committee, Watson strongly urged that the office of assessor remain elective.

"We are again being told that making the assessor an appointive officer would remove him from politics and the necessity of soliciting campaign contributions and whatever pressures go with campaign contributions," Watson said.

"THE ARGUMENT of course, assumes that campaign contributions are basically evil and that appointive officials are basically more honest than elected ones. If these assumptions

are correct, wouldn't the same reasoning apply to all elected officials, from legislators and congressmen to governors and Presidents?"

"In fact, some of the most corrupt property tax systems in the United States were products of appointment."

"For all its problems, the elective process—the opportunity to vote an assessor out of office—is a better safeguard for the taxpayers than an appointive process which makes him virtually untouchable."

Watson, whose topic was "The Legal, Moral and Ethical Issues Confronting Assessors," also discussed the responsibility of public officials concerning laws with which they disagree.

"We are living through a critical time in our society when significant segments of our population are refusing to obey certain laws which they contend are immoral, if not unethical," Watson said. "Public officials in my judg-

COLLEGE REPORT

By ROBERT M. BERSI

Since 1852, 11 attempts have been made to kill off the four-year college. All have failed. I shall, with this column, begin to talk about a few of these attempts.

The attacks upon the college have been of two varieties: first, the efforts to reduce the course to three years; and second, the efforts to reduce the college entirely by assigning its first two years to secondary education and its last two years to university education.

Five campaigns have been fought under the first plan: one each at Johns Hopkins, Yale, Cornell, Clark and Harvard. Six campaigns have been fought under the second strategy: one each at Michigan, Minnesota, Cornell, Columbia, Stanford, and finally, by a committee of the National Council of Education reporting in 1913.

THESE 11 attempts to modify the structure of American higher education are only the most important of a much larger number. No attempt will be made here to discuss, for example, the failure of the Kean Plan for the organization of American education which was the prize of the American Philosophical Society in 1790; the three-year program with which the University of Virginia opened, and which it later abandoned; the plan for the organization of education in the state of Georgia adopted in 1850 and dropped in 1852; the Johns Hopkins reorganization on a divisional basis in 1876; the unsuccessful efforts of President Edmund J. James at Pennsylvania, Northwestern, and Illinois to split the college into halves; the reports of the Committee on Standards of the National Association of State Universities which recommended at the 1908 Johns Hopkins program. President Gilman wrote that "the work of the first two number four has nothing as years of the college courses not accidental, not an-cess the last two years; and the first limit."

Obituaries

Otto Kraude

Funeral services for Otto J. Kraude, who died last Saturday, were scheduled today at the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel.

Mr. Kraude, who was born Feb. 14, 1892, in Chicago, Ill., lived at 23701 S. Western Ave. He had lived in the area for more than 20 years.

Survivors include two sons, Dr. Wesley Kraude of Norwalk and Donald Kraude of Tarkenton, Calif., and four grandchildren.

Margaret Champion

Funeral services for Margaret B. Champion, of 21000 S. Normandie Ave., were scheduled today at the Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel with burial following in Roosevelt Memorial Park.

Mrs. Champion, who was born July 1, 1914, in West Virginia, had lived in the Torrance area for nine years. She was employed as a bookkeeper for some 25 years by the Finch Paint Co. Mrs. Champion died Sunday.

She is survived by her husband, Carl E., four daughters, Jean Cole of Torrance, Jane Fleishman of Livermore, Calif., Joan Swillinger and Jackie Jenkins, both of West Virginia; and five grandchildren.

Valiant Key

Funeral services for Valiant W. Key, of 1411 W. 190th St., will be conducted in Talladega, Ala., with Stone and Myers Mortuary in charge of local arrangements.

Mr. Key, who died Monday, was born Dec. 22, 1913, in Alabama and had lived here for some 16 years. He was employed as a toolmaker by Harvey Aluminum, Inc.

Surviving Mr. Key are his mother, Mrs. Ethel Key of Alabama; two sisters, Pauline Ward of Huntington Park and Annie Lott of Alabama; and seven brothers, Palmer of Lakewood, Quay of Corona, Clarence of Texas, and Jeff, Thurston, Walden, and Hiram, all of Alabama.

Mathew A. Wilson

Funeral services were conducted Monday by Forest Lawn Mortuary for Mathew A. Wilson, 98.

Born in Canada, Mr. Wilson lived in the Los Angeles area for 30 years. His home was at 1878 W. 207th St. He died Oct. 11 at California Hospital.

Mr. Wilson is survived by four nephews and nieces, and a friend, Mrs. Audrey E. Darnell of Los Angeles.

Mr. Wilson came to the United States in 1918. He was a retired salesman.

Interment was at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Lawndale.

Mary E. May

Rosary for Mary E. May, who died Friday in a Downey hospital, was recited Monday at Cresce's Mortuary. A requiem mass was celebrated at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in Eagle Rock.

Mrs. May, who was born Aug. 2, 1917, in Canada, had lived in the Torrance area for nearly 30 years before moving to Eagle Rock.

Surviving Mrs. May are her husband, Aaron L., a son, Robert L. of Glendale; a daughter, Jane Marie Bailey of Eagle Rock; her mother, Mrs. Mary McNeil of Torrance; four sisters, Mrs. Celina Dean and Mrs. Dolores Payne of Torrance, Mrs. Veronica Tepper of Burbank, and Mrs. Frances Goss of Redondo Beach; and two brothers, Thomas F. McNeil of Torrance and Joseph J. McNeil of Orange. Also surviving is a great-grandson, Robert L. May Jr.

Burial was in Resurrection Cemetery in South San Gabriel.

NAME MANAGER

Lynn E. Knauss has been appointed loan manager for Universal CIT's Torrance office. Knauss most recently has been credit manager for the company's Leimert Park office.

Contract Awarded for New El Camino Facility

A \$3.5 million contract has been awarded for the construction of El Camino's Mathematics and Engineering building to Steed Brothers of Alhambra.

Construction is expected to begin within a month with 340 working days allowed to complete the project.

The results of two years of planning are a design for a three story "expandable" building. The three stories soon to be under construction will be built to allow for an additional three stories as the need arises, according to Henry Mansfield, dean of the Division of Mathematics and Engineering at the college.

The buildings will cost \$3,430,000, with the federal government expected to pay \$500,000 of the cost under the 1963 Higher Education Act. An additional grant of \$205,000 will come from the Vocational Education Bill.

Various machine shop laboratories, faculty and division offices will be housed in

the "basement" of the building with a data processing computer center and a 250-seat lecture hall the main features of the second floor. Physical and natural science departments will use the lecture room.

The third floor will be used for general classrooms and the roof will be utilized as an observatory for astronomy classes.

A planetarium will be built as part of the project but will be a separate structure just west of the math and engineering triplex.

New Sidewalk

Supervisor Burton W. Chase said today that an important Vermont Avenue sidewalk construction program has been scheduled by the County Road Department.

The 4-foot wide sidewalk will be built on the west side of Vermont Avenue between 232nd Street and Lindencroft Avenue.

Psychedelic Book Store Forum Set

The phenomenon of "psychedelic" book stores and gift shops community wide toward them will be explored Friday at 2 p.m. at American Savings and Loan, 1650 Kingsdale Ave., Redondo Beach, in a forum sponsored by the South Bay chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Speakers will be Henry Frazer, proprietor of the Hill Book Store in Inglewood, Manhattan Beach City Attorney Walter Anderson; Ned McCine, director of the ACLU Pellos Malpractice Center; Sunset Division; and a South Bay Chamber of Commerce spokesman.

Voice Class

Anyone can learn to sing, according to voice teacher Adrian Kozsi, "Dej Cantor" instructor now conducting eight-week public courses at the Grant Community Hall, Redondo Beach.

'Stations-in-the-Round' To Dot Future Highways

Gas stations of the future will probably look more like sidewalk cafes or perhaps pop art museums.

Mobil Oil Corp. hired a noted architect to dream up a new-fangled concept in service stations—the station-in-the-round—and is currently creating them on an experimental basis all over the country. Two of these stations are being built in Torrance, at Crosshatch Boulevard and 190th Street and at Hawthorne Boulevard and Newton Street.

The new concept calls for three large circular canopies over the pump islands. Service units will be cylindrical and an illuminated disc will boast the Mobil Flying Red Horse insignia. The disc and the word "Mobil" on poles located at the edge of the station are the only commercial identification.

The stations are the work of architect Eliot Noyes, a former director of industrial design at New York's Museum of Modern Art. He was commissioned by Mobil to "achieve the best possible balance between attractive architecture for the community and good service for the customer."

According to Noyes, repetition of the circular design harmonizes the various pieces of equipment in the pump islands become the focal point of customer attention. Lubrication and service bays are located on the side of the building whenever possible to add to the unified appearance of the station.



STATION-IN-THE-ROUND... The latest design in gas stations is admired by Mayor Albert Ison (left), who recently visited one of the new Mobil stations-in-the-round now operating in Torrance. Explaining the new concept are Jerry Hopson (center), station manager, and George Petrovich, Mobil market representative for the South Bay area. (Press-Herald Photo)



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