

MESSAGE IS AN IMPORTANT DOCUMENT

Harper Considers Owens River Project Above All Else—His Inauguration Simple and Unostentatious

(Continued from Page One) M. J. Harry, who served on the park board in the last administration, was named.

Confer on Subway

One of the important conferences of the day was held between the mayor, City Attorney Leslie A. Hewitt and others in regard to the Harriman subways. Maps were spread all over the floor and the engineers' plans and the routes were studied.

Other Officials Change

The mayor's office was not the only busy spot. Many of the city officials went out with the new year and new ones came in.

Auditor Needs Deputy

W. C. Musket, the new city auditor, took off his coat and literally went to work behind the screens. He, like Capt. Hance, went into office on a non-partisan ticket.

The New Assessor

Walter Mallard, who succeeds Evan Lewis as assessor, promises a conservative policy.

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

To the Honorable, the City Council, Los Angeles—Gentlemen: This is a critical time in the history of the city of Los Angeles. From a city of the infant class it has grown up to a city of the adult class.

City and County Consolidation

The present year should mark great progress in the movement for a "Greater Los Angeles." It is vital to the interests of the great city our people are building that no stumbling block be placed in the path of the city and county consolidation commission.

Finances of Los Angeles

The strictest economy should be practiced by the heads of departments. This year, as in past years, it has appeared impossible to raise sufficient money by taxation to meet the demands of the growing city.

City's Water Supply

Los Angeles' greatest need is water. It has already reached the limit of its present supply. Unless immediate provision is made for the future needs of the city not only will its growth be retarded, but it may reasonably be feared that a disastrous retrograde movement would set in.

Police Department

With the great increase of the law-abiding citizens there has also occurred an increase in the law-breaking class. The former readily takes care of itself; the latter, the city, must own and support.

Department of Public Works

While the Owens river project is a gigantic one, involving the expenditure of millions of dollars, the city has other municipal improvements under way, not

CAKE AND WHITE DECLINE

COMMISSION HONORS Hon. A. C. Harper, mayor-elect, Dear Sir: While I fully appreciate the high honor conferred on me in naming me as a member of the fire commission, and possessed of a desire to serve you as such, I feel that my private affairs will not permit my doing so.

I have worked for the Democratic party as a labor of love for more than two years. The time has now arrived when I must give less attention to political matters and devote my entire time to my business. If I accepted the appointment of fire commissioner I would have to give considerable time to commission meetings and investigation of pending matters.

Thanking you exceedingly, I am sincerely yours, GEORGE M. CAKE. Dear Sir: Since receiving notice from you that I had been chosen a member of the police commission under your administration, and accepting the honor conferred on me, I find that my business affairs are to call me away from the city a great deal more than I anticipated.

It is with regret, I assure you, that I reach this conclusion, for I highly appreciate the honor of being a member of your official family, and would like to have served on a commission dealing in matters I am thoroughly familiar with. Sincerely yours, W. A. WHITE.

Wants Board Consulted

The board of public works is a new creation by charter amendment voted upon by the people. Having, as it does, charge of all the work in the street, building and engineering departments, it necessarily becomes the most important of all the city departments.

Public Library

An American city is judged as much by its educational facilities as by its buildings. The public library is second only to the public schools in educational value.

Strechers in Street Cars

Street car accidents occur frequently in the suburbs. Often injured persons are carried long distances—sometimes forty blocks—on cars to hospitals in the city.

Shade Trees and Billboards

Few things tend to beautify a city more than shade trees. Citizens of Los Angeles are to be thanked for what they have done toward beautifying the city with shade trees and others en-

Prisoners' Barracks Favored

It has been suggested, and the suggestion has my approval, that a prisoners' barracks be established. Such barracks would afford relief from the present demand upon accommodations of the jail and would locate prisoners nearer the heart of the city.

Spur Track Franchises

In providing for the coming of new business enterprises, the railroad companies asked for many spur track franchises during the past year. The coming year will bring many more applications.

New City Hall

Immediate action should be taken to relocate our present city hall. The present city hall is overcrowded and is not fireproof.

Fire Department

Growth of the city and the increase of fire alarm apparatus has cramped the quarters in city hall until it becomes imperative to find a new site for the fire department.

Public Playgrounds

It is recommended by the playground commission that the city secure as quickly as possible sites for playgrounds. Investment in playgrounds, like parks, is a municipal economy.

Civil Service

One of the United States civil service commissioners is the authority for the statement that the civil service department of this city is the most effective municipal civil service in the United States.

Recent Gas Shortage

Without trying to excuse the corporation furnishing gas to the city, it is fair to say that a gas shortage is called to some attention. This city, perhaps more than any other city in the country, is more dependent upon gas companies.

Department of Health

Los Angeles has long had reason to feel proud of its health record. No other city can boast of such healthy conditions. Efficiency in service of men attached to the health department, and the adoption of new methods and effective legislation in the right time has kept Los Angeles at the top of the list in matters pertaining to health.

Encouraged to Join in this Public-Spirited Movement

An ordinance should be passed, and rigidly enforced, to prevent vile and disgraceful posters which frequently appear on city billboards. I do not refer particularly to theater posters, but to the objectionable advertising signs of restaurants and hotels.

Charter Revision

Recent examination of the city charter shows a number of worthless provisions. In addition to those which have outgrown the charter drafted for it in its youth, I would suggest that an unpaid commission consisting of members of the city council, the city attorney and possibly a representative of one of the civic bodies examine the charter with a view to its revision.

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ing the schools, should be created. The superintendent of schools recommends that this money be raised by an annual building fund, rather than by repeated bond issues, for the reason that it is a regular annual liability of the city.

One very great advantage which would accrue to the city from such a provision as mentioned is that the board of education would be enabled to buy school sites in advance of the pressure of population and could get them at much lower figures than now compelled to pay.

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As in the past, so should it be in the future.

The city needs attention of the city legislators perhaps more than any other time. There are many things which need prompt attention. An ordinance has already been prepared for betterment inspection, and it will be presented to you. Among other things it calls for more inspectors. They are needed. The milk inspecting force is also too small.

Public Bathing Places

Public bathing places are sadly needed. I am told they are needed here more than any city in the United States. This is due to the large number of visitors who stop in lodging houses and tenement districts where proper bathing accommodations are not provided.

Comfort Stations

Comfort stations are a necessity in Los Angeles. Rapid development of our city, with its isolation of smallpox, which come here to trade, renders the necessity greater each year. This recommendation should not be cast aside.

Sanitation

An ordinance should be passed which will regulate the sanitary conditions of a thorough system of inspection. Each lodging house keeper should be obliged to secure a permit, subject to approved sanitary conditions. At the same time there is likewise need of inspection of so-called first class hotels as well as poorer lodging houses.

Liquor

I am not in favor of any change or extension of the liquor zone, and recommend that no action be taken which would increase the present number of retail liquor licenses.

The Gas Situation

Los Angeles has experienced what no municipality of its size in the country ever experienced—a gas famine. What is more serious is, the city is threatened with a gas famine.

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