

Although this schedule indicates an estimated increase in support expenditures of \$29,311., the amount of increase is considerably minimized when analyzed as to its composition. Of the amount indicated, \$21,380. is actually a decrease in anticipated reimbursements, since during 1950-51 the Division will no longer render engineering services to the Division of Beaches and Parks. Thus, the requested increase is reduced to \$7,931., of which merit salary adjustments account for \$5,541., leaving a net increase requested of only \$2,390. or less than 1% over current estimated expenditures. A consistent endeavor has been made to effect economies wherever possible as suggested by the Director of Finance in his message of July 27, 1949, and it is felt that appropriation requests are reasonable in view of the estimated workload for the period involved.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, a resolution was adopted approving the proposed budget for the 1950-51 Fiscal Year, subject to review and approval by the Department of Finance.

34. (Comprehensive Survey and Report on the Torrens Title Act - W.O. 252) The Commission was informed that in accordance with the authority granted the State Lands Commission by way of a special legislative appropriation and the direction of the Commission, the Executive Officer recommends that the required comprehensive survey and report on the Torrens Title Act of California to the Legislature be accomplished by means of a written report to the Commission by a qualified expert in the field of land registration and recording systems and that the surveys be conducted and the report prepared as follows:

1. Field surveys and compilation of statistical and procedural data be conducted:
  - a. State of California, by Division Staff.
  - b. Cook County, Illinois, by Illinois Attorney.
  - c. State of Massachusetts, by Consultant.
2. Consultation and general supervision over field surveys and compilations, by Consultant.
3. Review of practices, procedures, laws and court decisions for the three areas, by Consultant.
4. Conclusions and recommendations, by Consultant.

To effectuate the foregoing program, it is proposed to contract for the services of Mr. James C. Short of Chicago, Illinois, an attorney of over 20 years' experience in Cook County where the Torrens system has been used extensively, and assign to him the field survey and compilations for that area.

The field surveys and compilations for the State of Massachusetts and the operations called for in Items 2, 3, and 4 above are proposed to be contracted for with Mr. Nathaniel B. Bidwell of Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. Bidwell is a former Assistant Attorney General of that State and has had a long experience in land title matters there. The State of Massachusetts is known to be outstanding in its land title laws and their administration.

Discussion was had as to the propriety of employing exclusively out-of-State counsel for this specialized work. A suggestion was made that one of the universities in California might be able to lend assistance through its Research Department by way

of an analysis and review of the California law on the subject and at little or no cost to the State.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, a resolution was adopted continuing specific action until the December meeting.

35. (Hearings pursuant to Section 126 of the Government Code - W.O. 455) The Commission was informed that on July 11, 1949, it authorized the Executive Officer to order and conduct the requisite hearings pursuant to Section 126 of the Government Code and under the Rules and Regulations adopted by the Commission on June 14, 1949, on the applications for consent to acquisition by the United States of lands comprising the sites occupied by the Birmingham General Hospital at Van Nuys, (W.O. 454) and Veterans' Hospital at San Fernando, (W.O. 497). At its meeting on July 26, 1949, the Commission authorized the Executive Officer to conduct similar hearings on applications for consent to acquisition by the United States of lands comprising the following sites:

Veterans' Administration	- Oakland Hospital (W.O. 453)
U. S. Navy	- Alameda Air Base (W.O. 480)
" "	- Oakland Depot (W.O. 481)
" "	- Richmond Depot (W.O. 482)
" "	- Stockton Depot (W.O. 483)
" "	- El Toro Air Base (W.O. 484)
" Army	- Camp Stoneman (W.O. 489)
" "	- Oakland Army Base (W.O. 490)
Veterans' Administration	- Gould Ranch (W.O. 496)
" "	- Livermore, V.A. Hospital (W.O. 498)
U.S. Navy	- Monterey Post-Graduate School (W.O. 516)

For these hearings it may be necessary that the Executive Officer issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses to give testimony under oath and handle other matters which the Commission is empowered to do under the provisions of Section 6103, Public Resources Code, and of Sections 11180 to 11184, inclusive, of the Government Code. The Commission may delegate this authority pursuant to Sections 11182 and 11184 of the Government Code.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, a resolution was adopted authorizing the delegation to the Executive Officer of all the powers conferred upon it by Sections 11180 to 11184 inclusive, Government Code, for the purpose of conducting such hearings as the Executive Officer has been authorized to conduct in connection with the acquisition of sites by the United States of lands in the State of California.

36. (Request for Deferment of Drilling requirements - Honolulu-Signal-Macco, Coal Oil Point Area, Santa Barbara County - P.R.C. 308) The Commission was informed that on September 15, 1949, (Minute Page 995, Item 3), it authorized the deferment of drilling and operating requirements under Oil and Gas Lease No. P.R.C. 308 for a period of ninety days until October 28, 1949. A request has again been received from the Honolulu Oil Corporation as the operator of Lease P.R.C. 308 for an extension of the deferment of the drilling and operating requirements for an additional period of ninety days until January 26, 1950, within which time the lessee may complete the analysis of data and formulate plans for future exploration on the lease.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried, a resolution was adopted authorizing the Executive Officer to grant Honolulu-Signal-Macco, lessees under State Oil and Gas Lease No. P.R.C. 308, a deferment of drilling and operating requirements until January 26, 1950.