



CLSA

Institutional Affiliate of American  
Congress on Surveying and  
Mapping

# The California Surveyor

THE VOICE OF THE LAND SURVEYORS OF CALIFORNIA

No. 33

SUMMER EDITION

1974

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*by Joseph J. Scherf, L.S.*

The San Diego convention was a spectacular success. The turnout was really great, and the program was an exceedingly informative one. I'm sure that all of the people attending had a wonderful time.

I would like to talk about self policing in our profession in this issue. The latest edition of the Board of Registration of Professional Engineers' Newsletter has the following statement: "**HELP**" The Board actively seeks the cooperation of all registrants as well as the general public in reporting any possible negligent, incompetent, or improper engineering work or fraud, misrepresentation, or incompleteness of an engineering or land surveying contract. If you discover or are aware of any such violation of the Professional Engineers Act or Land Surveyors Act, it should be reported to the Board"

The person who is best qualified to determine negligence, incompetency, or improper land survey work is the licensed land surveyor himself. We all know that a profession is only as professional as its members want it to be, whether it be the individual, a local group, or a state organization. With self policing and self regulation, the land surveyor can maintain a high professional level of integrity. It is to the benefit of the profession to regulate itself, and in the final analysis, better serve the public.

But must we then, as part of this self policing, become informers on our fellow professionals? Some perhaps who are close friends, who freely share their information with us, loan us equipment from time to time, and even help us evaluate a sticky situation. Would this self policing imperil our survey fraternity and create a schism in our ranks? Shall we set ourselves up as "kangaroo courts" to regulate our neighboring practitioners? Or is it better to keep his transgressions hidden in the closet and not wash our professional linen

*Continued on page 4*

## FROM THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION

*by Raymond B. Thinggaard, L.S.*

Many of the readers of this, I am sure, have had questions relating to the interpretation of either the Subdivision Map Act or the Land Surveyor's Act. While the Subdivision Map Act is administered and enforced by the local agency having jurisdiction, any survey work done pursuant to a Subdivision or Parcel Map must be done in conformance with the Land Surveyor's Act which is administered and enforced by the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers. Anyone having questions about the Land Surveyor's Act is encouraged to direct his questions to the Board of Registration at 1021 "O" Street, Sacramento, California 95814 for clarification.

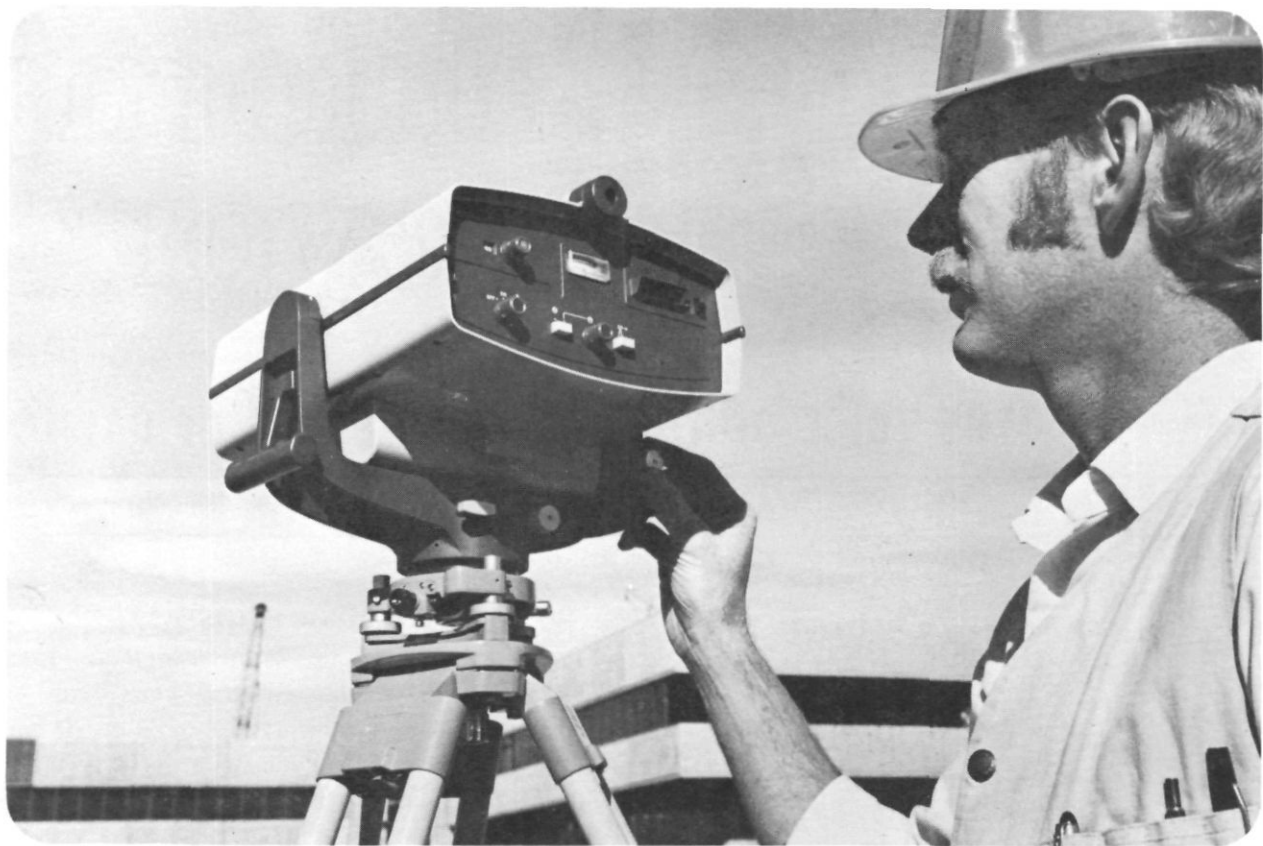
Following are some recent decisions or opinions of the Board of Registration in reply to questions:

1. What conditions must be met for a parcel map to be filed from record data?
  - a. The surveyor should be convinced of the definiteness of streets and property lines bounding the parcel.
  - b. A prior map which delineates and enables the exterior boundaries of the parcel to be retraced must exist in the record.
  - c. A line on that map is monumented.
  - d. At least one boundary of the parcel being subdivided is tied to the line which is monumented.
  - e. If no field work is performed, the newly created parcels need not be monumented.

It was further pointed out by the Board, however, that the Subdivision Map Act is an enabling act. Therefore, the regulations may be modified by local city or county ordinances.

2. Since the Board of Registration is responsible for enforcing the Land Surveyor's Act, when, in your

*Continued on page 13*



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**TO: Board of Directors, CLSA**

**FROM: Robert L. Carpenter, Director at Large**

Among the written aims and objectives of CLSA are the phrases "to promote and maintain the highest possible standards of professional ethics and practices" and "to promote professional uniformity". Despite these noble objectives we in CLSA have erected a barrier to communication within the practice of land surveying. We will not accept as regular members Civil Engineers who practice land surveying.

We grant regular membership to Photogrammetric Surveyors, Land Surveyors who are not practicing professionally, and Land Surveyors who are by choice involved in nothing but construction. And we should.

The Civil Engineer, who may be surveying the boundary adjoining your job; the Civil Engineer who may be responsible for a country's surveying function, or checking your Record of Survey; the Civil Engineer who would be *grandfathered as an L.S.* under one of our legislative proposals may not become a regular member of CLSA whose noble objectives are noted above. Do we really want to "promote and maintain ---standards of professional ethics and practices" and "--- professional uniformity..? Then it is time to open up membership to those Civil Engineers who are actively involved in land surveying. With greater resources, people as well as money, we can accomplish our goals.

We have been accused by cynics as working only for our self interest. We can show engineers in land surveying that abolishment of the exemption is in the public interest as well as their own.

I charge that the only deterrent to granting the Civil Engineers regular CLSA membership is the Land Surveyor's lack of confidence in his own ability to control CLSA's direction. As a result we talk across a table in liaison meetings as adversaries, full of suspicion and intent on protecting our respective titles, rather than meeting as fellow professionals ready to cooperate in achieving those objectives noted in our constitution.

It is time that we live up to our obligation to the public and the profession and display the maturity that is evident in so many of our activities by revising our constitutional qualifications for membership. ▲

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## **CLSA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

*by Dave Roberts, L.S.*

At present your committee is following 24 bills with no action taken at present, supporting 7 bills, and attempting to amend 7. Of prime interest are the 3 bills introduced for us by Assemblyman Ray Johnson of Chico. Assembly Bills 3518, 3519, and 3520 will amend various sections of the L.S. Act.

Senate Bill 977, the proposed new Subdivision Map Act, has been amended 49 times by CLSA and is still being closely watched.

S.B. 1888 Exempting Engineers, Architects, Geologists, Land Surveyors from the newly created Construction Inspector Act is being supported by CLSA.

Assembly Bill 325 is being actively supported. This bill by Assemblyman Powers requires that Engineering and Architectural services negotiated by public agencies with private consultants must be based upon demonstrated competence and professional qualifications rather than competitive bidding. We will attempt to amend this to include Land Surveyors.

Your committee is beginning the preparation of our program for the next legislative session which will begin in January, 1974. Suggestions from chapters and individual members are welcome. Also, any members willing to work on the committee should contact Fred Kett, committee chairman, or any of the committee members.

### **ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 3518**

**Introduced by Assemblyman**

**Ray E. Johnson**

**March 26, 1974**

*An act to amend Section 8763 of, to add Section 8762 to, and to repeal Section 8762 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to land surveying.*

#### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 3518, as introduced, Ray E. Johnson (L. Gov.) Land surveying.

Makes changes in the provisions relating to filing of surveys by licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer and the provisions for the physical dimensions of the survey record.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Section 8762 of the Business and Professions Code is repealed.

~~8762. After making a survey in conformity with the practice of land surveying, the surveyor or civil engineer may file with the county surveyor in the county in which the survey was made, a record of such survey.~~

~~Within ninety days after the establishment of points or lines the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer shall file with the county surveyor in the county in which the survey was made, a record of such survey~~

*(Continued on page 13)*



# CLSA EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

## THE LAW AND THE CALIFORNIA SURVEYOR

by Chuck Wooldridge, L.S., Convention Co-Chairman

The California Land Surveyors Association 1974 San Diego Convention started out right on target following its theme, "The Law and The California Surveyor" with its Legislative Director, A. E. Griffin, reviewing legislative activities and the new Corner Recordation Law which became effective Jan. 1, 1974. Actually, it opened the night before with the traditional Vendors Cocktail party sponsored by the twenty-five exhibitors displaying the largest collection of surveyors equipment ever assembled under one roof.

Title aspects, following the theme, were well covered by *Gurdon Wattles of Title Insurance and Trust Company*, especially as they related to physical monuments. Condominium Statutes as they effect the surveyors was the next topic, presented by an attorney, son of a land surveyor, Alan Perry, Esq. of San Diego.

The close relationship between CLSA, and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping was demonstrated by Edward K. Elder, Chairman of ACSM's Land Surveys Division speaking on California Surveyors and case law. Robert D. Reckert, national ACSM President followed, speaking on national trends in the surveying profession.

Two hundred seventy-five of the four hundred fifty-three individuals attending the convention concluded the first day with a Polynesian evening of dinner and entertainment that will be long remember by most, and soon forgotten, if remembered at all, by a few according to CLSA President Joe Scherf. (What happened, Joe?) Meanwhile seventy-six ladies, and future surveyors, or surveyors wives, toured the world famous San Diego Zoo, seeing all the attractions and learning more of our zoological heritage.

Continuing with the meeting theme, Judge Stuart C. Wilson, of the Northern County Judicial District of San Diego County, shared honors on a panel with Robert Thayer, substituting for Frank H. Fowles, Inyo County District Attorney, as a panel with our own John P. Pedri, Land Surveyor member of our Board of Registration and Tuolumne County Surveyor, tackled advice concerning administration and enforcement of state laws pertaining to surveying. Some members felt that they reached pretty far to include land surveying in their remarks, but others wonder if they really included the full subject.

After lunch Saturday, the eminent Curtis M. Brown and Thomas A. Gade, attorney, reviewed differing opinions as a panel discussion. They both enthralled the audience with their remarks.

Later that afternoon, one hundred seventy-two

departed for an experience in Mexican bargaining. Someone asked, "What's the difference between this and negotiating the surveying fee?"

In all, The Law and The California Surveyor broke all records for attendance, participation and land surveyor interest. The convention committee promises more and better when we meet jointly with Nevada at South Lake Tahoe. Mark your calendar now and don't miss 1975, March 6, 7 and 8. See you at the Lake then.

All talks were recorded and have been transcribed. Speakers are currently reviewing their remarks for possible correction of intent, as this goes to press.

One copy is being provided each Chapter, where arrangements may be made for reproduction and distribution. ▲

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER (Continued from page 1)

in public. Should the profession "carry" the incompetent practitioner - knowing full well that he is creating problems that will be costly to untangle, and be unfair to the general public?

The Board has asked for help. Will you stick your head in the sand and hope the problem goes away - or will you stand on your feet and face up to the situation? As a professional land surveyor - what is your answer going to be?

The call to meet our professional duty is clear. A profession can advance only if its practitioners can identify and actively work to correct its deficiencies. We have to elevate the status of land surveying by demanding competency of its practitioners.

One method of self policing would be to set up a committee within the chapter itself whose function would be to review a complaint of an individual's work. This committee could then work with that individual to resolve the discrepancies. If agreement could not be reached, the matter could then be taken up with the Board of Registration.

The Mother Lode Chapter is making an attempt to do just that, not with malice, but with the earnest conviction that a profession must police its own practitioners. Lake Menocino Chapter is also formulating the same program. This procedure has merit and should be discussed within each chapter.

I endorse the premise that each individual - every group - and professional state organization should actively pursue the attainment of true professionalism in its highest meaning. It is not enough to call yourself a professional land surveyor, - your must be one. ▲

*An income tax collector is a man who can turn a nest egg into chicken feed.*  
—Gas House Gazette

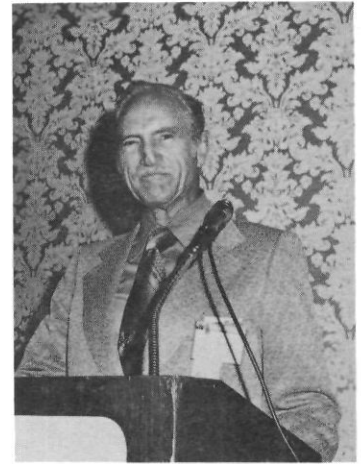




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ROBERT THAYER

# CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

APRIL 4 - 6, 1974 • BAHIA HOTEL, SAN DIEGO



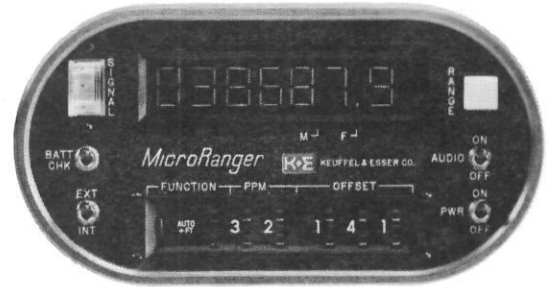
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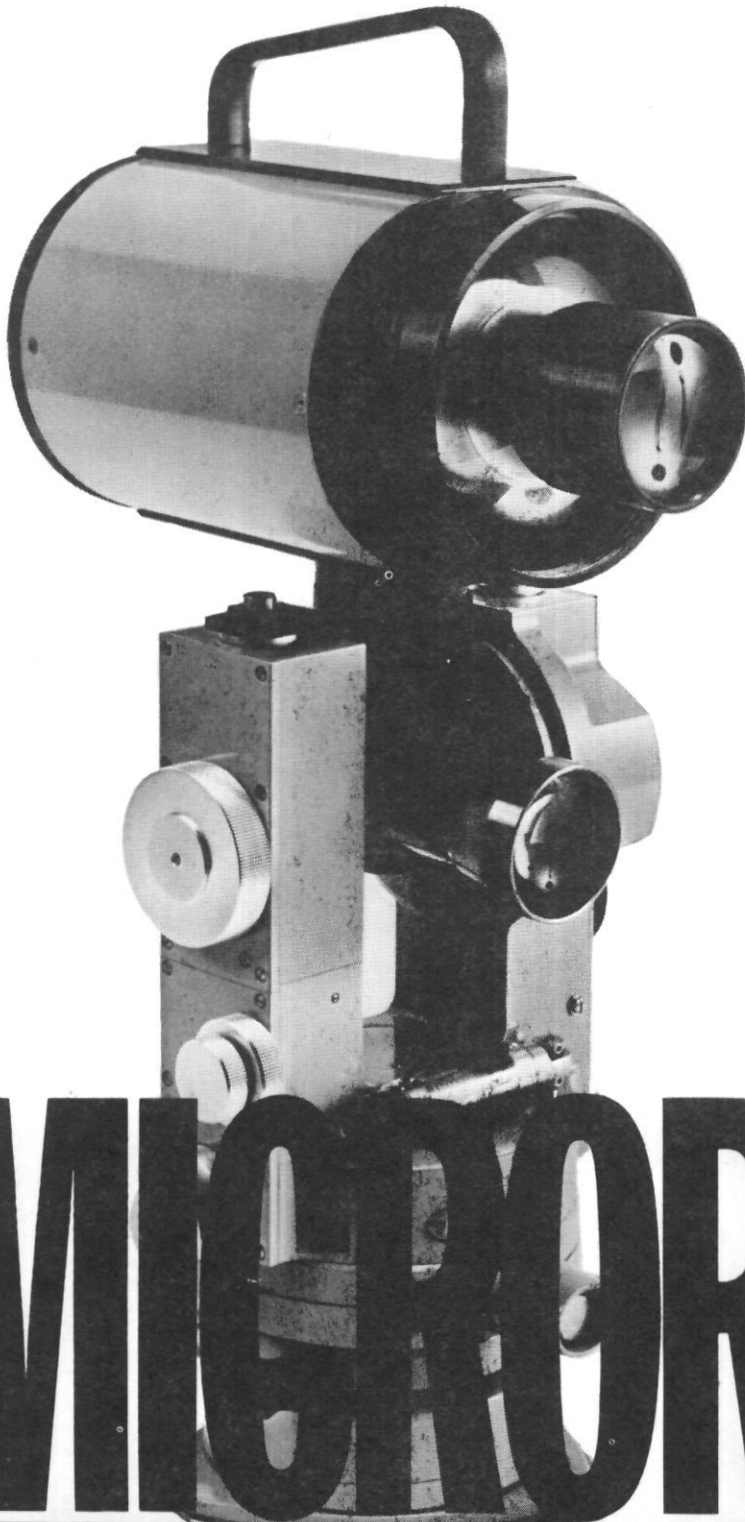
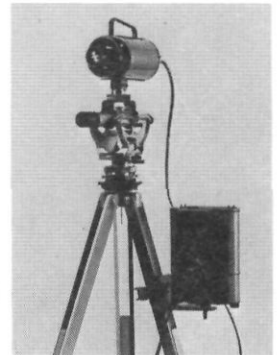
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# COMMENTS AND LETTERS, From In, Out, and Aound

Dear Sir:

I read with great interest the article titled "The Surveyor and O.S.H.A." in the Spring, 1974 edition of "The California Surveyor". The article was well written and the facts stated are applicable in a great many locations in the United States, *except* California.

The Federal O.S.H.A. has been superceded in California by the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 (CAL/OSHA) under special provisions of Federal O.S.H.A. Many items are similar in both O.S.H.A. and CAL/OSHA, but one large difference noted is that in CAL/OSHA governmental agencies (and *any* of their employees) are exempt from any monetary penalties but are *not* exempt from any possible jail terms.

Information on CAL/OSHA may be obtained at any local office of the California Division of Industrial Safety.

Also, this is to advise you that the Plano Base line in Mission Viejo is no longer in use but has been replaced by an E.D.M. base line along the Santa Ana River. Information on the new base line is as follows:

Area — Orange

Location — East side Santa Ana River between Ball Road and Lincoln Avenue.

Contact — Orange County Surveyor's Office or Orange County Flood Control District

Type — E.D.M.

Lengths — 372, 2702, 2770, 3074, 5844 feet

Note — Contact O.C.F.C.D. for key to gate on Ball Road

Very truly yours,

Ruel del Castillo

Supervising Survey Analyst

and

Vice-Chairman-Orange County Road

Department Safety and Health

Advisory Committee

Department of Consumer Affairs

## CALIFORNIA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Examination Dates	*Final Filing Dates
<b>Land Surveyor</b> November 9, 1974	July 15, 1974
<b>Land Surveyor-in-Training</b> November 9, 1974	August 26, 1974

\*Applications filed after the final filing date specified will be considered for the following examination. Refile applications should be filed as early as possible to reserve an examination seat.

## THE STORY OF MANKIND, (Surveyors, that is.) As told by a grandfather to his No. 1 grandson

— by Eugene Lockton, L.S.

Once upon a time, Timmie boy, there existed an anthropoid society whose members were endowed with an instinctual control over their behavior, which, coupled with a meager rational ability, carried them along the hazardous path of evolution. Somehow, about a million and a half years ago, they developed a taste for a high protein diet and became the worlds most dangerous predators, a title they still hold. The important thing is that the high calorie diet met their nutritional demands with less expenditure of time than was hitherto required, thus giving them the opportunity to fool around with flint knives, clubs, spears and other tools demanded by their new careers. Ultimately life got just too complex for everybody to understand everything that was going on and another happening occurred:-a quarter to a half million years ago. In accordance with a law of nature that when a need arises, a means of fulfillment will appear, they got a much bigger brain.

Of course the first thing they did was to upgrade their equipment with bows and arrows, guns, bombs and such but with the new mental ability they were able to expand their activities too. Finally it got so that nobody could know everything that there was to know and rather than get new hat sizes all around, they invented 'specialists' and divided up the info. This was admittedly risky business since the general membership now couldn't know what any particular specialist was up to; if he did, he'd be one. Supposedly they had nothing to fear but fear, but who can be confidant that he isn't getting skinned when he is told he has to pay \$49.95 for a new carburetor to fix his TV set with. So they simply had to have licenses. Apparently the surveyors were the most suspect because they were about the first to be licensed. The idea caught on fast and soon nearly everybody was licensed.

In the confusion, however, some groups got package deals. For instance the barbers got to practice medicine without standing for examination because in those days about all there was to medicine was blood-letting and who could say a razor wasn't as effective as a leech and a whole lot faster. Another group rode in on the similarity between 'earthworks', a military fortification, and 'works of the earth', things like roads and tunnels.

Only by this time the State had already made a commitment to the surveyors to the effect that if they would stand an examination to prove an adequate minimum capability, (for the benefit of the citizenry) the State would compensate them with a monopoly. This

*Continued on page 17*



**PEER REVIEW FOR LAND SURVEYORS**

*by Francis Silver, L.S.*

The learned professions involve many complex, subtle decisions of a technical and ethical nature that materially affect how the work should be done. The consequences of a mistake to a client are often devastating. The client is usually poorly equipped to evaluate the quality of the work he is receiving.

One of the devices used to maintain the quality of the work given to the public by free enterprise professions is peer review.

Peer review in the legal profession is handled chiefly by ethical committees of the bar association and more especially by the courts. When an attorney is admitted to the bar, he is required to take an oath to uphold the state and United States Constitution. Upon admission to practice, he becomes an officer of the court. Although much of his work is confidential, a great deal of his work, such as deeded and wills, is spread upon the public record. Most of his courtroom practice is subject to intense scrutiny by the public, press, fellow attorneys, jury, and judge. His courtroom actions are frequently subject to criticism by the judge and other attorneys.

Many of the activities of physicians are subject to detailed peer review in consultations, and by tissue and record committees of hospitals. Their work may be further subject to review by accreditation boards of hospitals. The handling of drugs by physicians is reviewed by FDA inspectors.

Licensing does not automatically confer upon an attorney the privilege of practicing before a court. He must be vouched for by an attorney who already has received courtroom privileges and be formally granted the right to appear before a certain court. He has to go through this procedure again in being admitted to practice before higher courts and certain other governmental bodies.

Licensing does not automatically confer upon a physician the right to practice a speciality or to practice in a hospital. He must make application for hospital privileges, be vouched for by a fellow physician, and be approved by other the board of trustees of the hospital and the medical staff. He can be put off staff for not meeting minimum requirements without losing his license.

The safeguards mentioned above applying to our two leading professions have not eliminated all abuses of the privileges that go with membership in the professions. Neither have these safeguards eliminated all criticism of the professions. They have, however, demonstrated some serious intention of these two professions to attempt to be self-policing. They probably contribute importantly to the esteem and privilege which has been given to these two professions. The recognition of the need for an ongoing effort to upgrade the quality of the work performed by professionals beyond that required by taking a test for licensure should be an example to the surveying profession.

The proposed county surveyor, state surveyor-general legislation contains provisions for review of the recorded work of local surveyors. This can be thought of as similar to judicial

*Continued on page 21*



**“THE LAW AND THE CALIFORNIA SURVEYOR”**

*by Roy Watley, Jr., L.S.*

When the law and the California Surveyor get together, there is never a dull moment. This proved to be true at the 1974 California Land Surveyors Convention in sunny San Diego. From opening session to the trip to Tijuana, Mexico, the activities and exhibits were magnificent.

One surveyor stated that the weather was really beautiful and he would like to go out and enjoy it but the speeches and discussions were just too interesting. Also a comment was made by one of the exhibitors that this was the first convention attended by him where the exhibit room was practically empty each time a session was begun. Could it be that this convention was too good?

The surveying equipment was just overpowering. A person could have easily spent the entire weekend familiarizing himself or herself with the various improved instruments.

Each surveyor who attended this convention was exposed to laws pertaining to surveyors and surveying, surveying problems and possible solutions. Textbooks and experience often do not give the total pictures. Discussions, seminars and conventions are also a necessary part of the total learning experience of a professional.

For those of you who missed the 1974 Convention, I would like to tell you that YOU REALLY MISSED IT! Next year don't be caught at home on the 6, 7 and 8 of March. Attend the 1975 Convention in South Lake Tahoe. You can't make up for missing the last one but no surveyor makes the same mistake twice. Right? RIGHT ON! ▲

**REPORTER?**

Anyone wanting to be a reporter for “The California Surveyor” contact:

Reporter  
P.O. Box 3707  
Hayward, Calif. 94540

<b>DEADLINE DATES FOR THE CALIFORNIA SURVEYOR</b>	
Fall Edition . . . . .	August 17, 1974
Winter Edition . . . . .	November 16, 1974
Articles, Reports, Letters, etc., received after the above mentioned date will be placed in the next Edition.	
Editor	

# CONVENTION - 1975

**"California - Nevada Land Surveyors Convention"**

**TECHNICAL  
SESSIONS**

A joint meeting,  
co-sponsored by the

**COMMERCIAL  
EXHIBITS**

**California Land Surveyors Association  
and the  
Nevada Association of Land Surveyors**

. . . to be held at the

**GAMING**

**SAHARA TAHOE**

**SHOWS**

**SOUTHSHORE, LAKE TAHOE  
IN MARCH 6-8, 1975**

**SKIING**

**FROM THE BOARD** (Continued from page 1)

opinion, is it necessary to file a record of Survey?

a. When material evidence which in whole or in part does not appear on any map or record previously recorded or filed. Therefore, if a monument is set and tagged and does not appear on a record map, a map must be filed.

b. When a material discrepancy with such record is found.

c. When evidence that by reasonable analysis might result in alternate positions of lines or points, and

d. When the establishment of one or more lines not shown on any map the position of which are not ascertainable from an inspection of such map without trigonometric calculations.

3. Some small cities do not require parcel maps on lot splits, doesn't the Subdivision Map Act require all cities and counties to comply with the state law?

a. The Subdivision Map Act, as I understand it, does require the submission of parcel maps. The Board, however, does not have authority to enforce requirements of the Act.

Further, the Board has recently stated that, according to their interpretation of Sections 8762 and 8772 of the Land Surveyor's Act, the land surveyor is required to place his tag on an untagged monument when it is found used and accepted in the course of making a survey.▲

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** (Continued from page 3)

relating to land boundaries or property lines, which discloses.

(a) Material evidence, which in whole or in part does not appear on any map or record previously recorded or filed in the office of the county recorder, county clerk, municipal or county surveying department or in the records of the Bureau of Land Management of the United States.

(b) A material discrepancy with such record.

(c) Evidence that, by reasonable analysis, might result in alternate positions of lines or points.

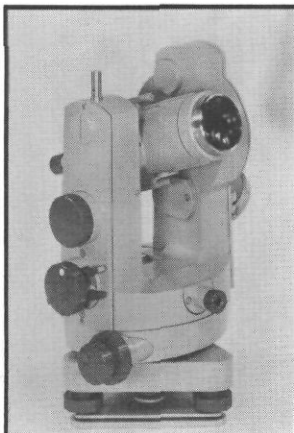
(d) The establishment of one or more lines not shown on any such map, the positions of which are not ascertainable from an inspection of such map without trigonometric calculations.

Any record of survey filed with the county surveyor shall after being examined by him be filed with the county recorder.

**SEC. 2.** Section 8762 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

8762; Any licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer may file with the county surveyor a record of survey of any survey executed prior to January 1, 1975. After January 1, 1975, any licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer executing a property survey shall within 90 days after the establishment of points or

(Continued on page 14)



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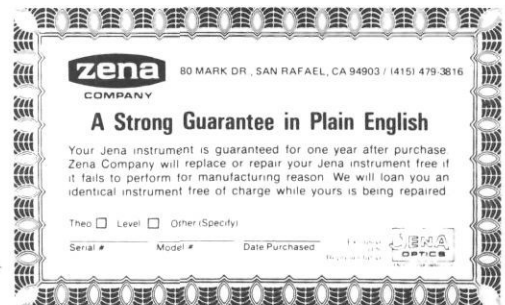


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**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** (Continued from page 13)

lines file with the county surveyor in the county in which the survey was made, a record of such survey, which discloses material or physical evidence, which in whole or in part does not appear on any map or record previously recorded or filed in the office of the county recorder, municipal or county surveying department or in the records of the Bureau of Land Management of the United States. Any record of survey filed with the county surveyor shall after being examined by him be filed with the county recorder.

**SEC. 3.** Section 8763 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8763. The record of survey shall be a map, legibly drawn, printed, or reproduced by a process guaranteeing a permanent record in black on tracing cloth, or polyester base film, 18 by 26 inches, or 18 by 13 inches, as required by the county recorder. If ink is used on polyester base film, the ink surface shall be coated with a suitable substance to assure permanent legibility. A one-inch blank margin shall be left on each edge of the map.

**ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 3519**

**Introduced by Assemblyman**

**Ray E. Johnson**

**March 26, 1974**

*As An act to amend Sections 8765 and 8766 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to land surveying.*

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 3519, as introduced, Ray E. Johnson (L. Gov.). Land surveying.

Deletes provision that within 20 days or such additional time deemed reasonably necessary, the county surveyor shall examine the record of survey made by a licensed land surveyor or a registered civil engineer, and instead requires that such examination take place in 20 days or within such additional time as mutually agreed upon between such land surveyor or such civil engineer and the county surveyor.

Provides that additional information must be shown on a copy of a survey made by a public officer and filed with the county surveyor for purposes of dispensing with the requirement that a survey be recorded.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Sections 8765 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8765. A record of survey is not required of any survey:

(a) When it has been made by a public officer in his official capacity and a reproducible copy thereof, showing all data required by subdivisions (a), (b), (c), and (d) of Section 8764, has been filed with the county surveyor of the county in which the land is located. Any

map so filed shall be indexed and kept available for public inspection; ~~except that a record of survey shall not be required of a survey made by the United States Bureau of Land Management.~~

(b) ~~When it is of a preliminary nature.~~ Made by the United States Bureau of Land Management.

(c) When a map is in preparation for recording or shall have been recorded under the provisions of the Subdivision Map Act.

8766. Within 20 days after receiving the record of survey, or within such additional time as may be ~~reasonable necessary~~ mutually agreed upon by the land surveyor or civil engineer and the county surveyor, the county surveyor shall examine it with respect to:

(a) Its accuracy of mathematical data and completeness of information as required in Section 8764.

(b) Its conformity to other records or satisfactory ~~evidence of the error of~~ explanation of any difference with such other records.

(c) Its compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 3520**

**Introduced by Assemblyman**

**Ray E. Johnson**

**March 26, 1974**

*An act to amend Sections 8770 and 8772 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to land surveying.*

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 3520, as introduced, Ray E. Johnson (L. Gov.). Land surveying.

Requires that surveys filed with the county surveyor be fastened in a suitable book.

Requires that surveys filed with the county recorder be indexed, in addition to those methods presently required, by the public land survey system as applicable; and further requires the county surveyor to use the same methods of indexing as used by the county recorder, for surveys filed with such county surveyor.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Section 8770 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8770. The record of survey filed with the county surveyor or recorder of any county shall be securely fastened by him into a suitable book provided for that purpose.

He shall keep proper indexes of such record of survey by the name of grant, tract, subdivision ~~or United States subdivision~~, and public land survey system area as is applicable.

The original map shall be stored for safekeeping in a reproducible condition. It shall be proper procedure for the recorder to maintain for public reference a set of

*Continued on page 15*

counter maps that are prints of the original maps, and the original maps to be produced for comparison upon demand.

**SEC. 2.** Section 8772 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8772. Any monument set by a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer to mark or reference a point on a property or land line shall be permanently and visibly marked or tagged with the certificate number of the surveyor or civil engineer setting it, each number to be preceded by the letters "L.S." or "R.C.E.," respectively, as the case may be or, if the monument is set by a public officer, it shall be marked with his official title and his agency, or agency subdivision name. "L.S." or "R.C.E." certificate numbers are not required on any monument set by a public officer and marked with his official title and his agency or agency and subdivision name.

This section does not apply to monuments set by the State Division of Highways to mark state highway boundaries. ▲

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS CONFERENCE

by Dan Chadfield, L.S.

The Reather River and Northern Counties Chapters combined to hold an all day conference on Saturday, May 18, 1974 at Bridge Bay Resort and Marina, Lake Shasta, for the benefit of the Northern California Land Surveyors who could not attend the convention in San Diego. There were 33 members and guests present.

C.L.S.A. President Joseph Sherf opened the conference at 9:00 AM citing the goals of C.L.S.A. and gave the highlights of the San Diego Convention. He was followed by Edward Griffin, L.S., Director of Surveys, B.L.M. Sacramento, member of C.L.S.A., Legislative Committee and Board of Directors, who spoke on B.L.M.'S. role in Surveying and also held a question and answer period on present laws affecting the surveyor and proposed new Legislation. Past President C.L.S.A., Gene Lockton, spoke on the evolution of the land surveyor.

After the lunch break Lee Brushett, Title Engineer, Superior California Title and Escrow Company, Redding, gave a talk on "Title Research". He was followed by Chuch Hornbeck, R.E., Engineering Instructor, Shasta College, Redding who spoke on "Continuing Education for the Land Surveyor". Fred Foulon, Oregon Institute of Technology, talked on "Survey Education in the United States".

A short business meeting was held followed by a no-host cocktail hour and a banquet. The guest speaker at the banquet was Dave Morrow, Attorney at Law, Redding, whose subject was "Real Estate Law" ▲



Dorothy Curren, L.S. was apparently the first woman to become a Licensed Land Surveyor in California when she passed the examination in 1945. Her husband, Roland, also completed the one-day exam plus interview required that year, but Dorothy could claim to be the "senior" L.S. in the family--Dorothy's number was 2340; Roland's was 2341.

Although she never obtained any field experience, Dorothy knew how to solve that problem. When one of the Board of Registration's interviewers asked how she would perform the field work, she answered, "Well, I would hire my husband or one of my two brothers, or one of my two brothers-in-law, to do the field work." Had the same question been asked after 1962, she would have been able to add another Licensed Land Surveyor to the list. 1962 was the year her son, Michael Curren (now Chief of Surveys and Vice President of Nasland Engineering, Inc.) passed the L.S. examination.

Knowing how the stories of S.I.'s seem to change with time, we are going to accept Michael's account of the events following his mother's interview:

"Apparently, with her high written score, her answer satisfied the Board of Registration and she was licensed. My dad came in next and caught nothing but a hard time (in fun, of course) from the interviewers. They told him his wife had been granted a license and asked him how was he going to feel driving all the way back to San Diego with a woman L.S. when he didn't make it. As it turned out, they both passed with a good joke played on my dad (or a good story by him)." ▲

**STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FROM PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
THE FOLLOWING APPLICANTS PASSED THE NOVEMBER 3, 1973 WRITTEN EXAMINATION  
FOR CERTIFICATION AS A LAND SURVEYOR-IN-TRAINING:**

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

Anderson, Darrel Neal ..... Redding  
 Anderson, William Kenneth ..... Fresno  
 Andrews, William Marion ..... Eureka  
 Aycock, Arlie Eugene ..... Fremont  
 Baker, James Harold ..... Berkeley  
 Baldwin, Robert Edward ..... Albany  
 Bargsten, Robert ..... Fresno  
 Barnhart, Richard D. .... Auburn  
 Barthelow, Patrick James ..... Fresno  
 Beattie, Adalberto, Jr. .... San Jose  
 Blevins, Jerry Allen ..... San Jose  
 Brooks, Alan R. .... Nevada City  
 Brunner, Howard William ..... Santa Rosa  
 Cadiente, John Richard ..... Santa Cruz  
 Campbell, Neal P. .... Petaluma  
 Carnes, Gary Dean ..... Clovis  
 Cassano, Charles Frederick ..... Central Valley  
 Cassera, Richard Harold ..... Paso Robles  
 Chadd, James Scott ..... Colfac  
 Chapman, Arthur Richard ..... San Mateo  
 Christofferson, John ..... Oroville  
 Close, Earnest Alvin ..... Santa Rosa  
 Conner, Douglas Roger ..... Woodland  
 Conner, Edwin Marvin ..... Daly City  
 Crail, Charles Wilson ..... Fresno  
 D'Alo, Vincent James ..... Berkeley  
 de St. Maurice, Charles E.G., Jr. .... Marysville  
 Diederich, Horst ..... San Jose  
 Diskin, Cary Michael ..... Yuba City  
 Faler, Robert Gary ..... Scotts Valley  
 Farmer, Lawrence Randall ..... Sebastopol  
 Fields, Robert Dudley ..... Fresno  
 Fisher, Richard Poole ..... San Carlos  
 Floyd, Ralph Steven ..... Concord  
 Fox, Billy Floyd, Jr. .... Anderson  
 Francis, Perry George ..... Fair Oaks  
 Frost, Stephen Charles ..... Tahoe City  
 Gibson, Lloyd Morgan, Jr. .... Visalia  
 Goodner, Robert King ..... Fresno  
 Gorath, Larry Eugene ..... Sacramento  
 Greene, Robert Edgar ..... Fresno  
 Grutkowski, Gary Vincent ..... Santa Rosa  
 Hawkins, Claire Caywood ..... Vacaville  
 Heil, Clayborne Lee ..... Carmichael  
 Henricks, Robert Wesley ..... Lakeport  
 Hoblitt, Cyrus Alvin ..... Tuolumne  
 Jeffries, Thomas Lloyd ..... Valley Springs  
 Johnson, Larry Edward ..... Fresno  
 Johnston, Robert Dickson ..... Sacramento  
 Jones, Barney Buck ..... San Francisco  
 Jones, Stephen Leonard ..... Clovis  
 King, Ronald Dean ..... Santa Rosa  
 Krieschel, John Drake ..... Redding  
 Leckey, Edward James ..... Ridgecrest  
 Lipford, John ..... Pacifica  
 Lobdell, David Rollin ..... Petaluma  
 Love, Kenton Edison ..... Vallejo  
 Mahoney, Michael Sydney ..... San Bruno  
 Margosian, Anthony ..... Sacramento  
 McKinney, William Fudge ..... Rancho Cordova  
 Mendenhall, Steven Mitchell ..... Citrus Heights  
 Mermelstein, Michael ..... Bishop  
 Monson, Ronald Paul ..... Tahoe City  
 Moriarty, James John ..... Livermore  
 Olson, Darryl Vance ..... Sacramento  
 Palm, Lawrence August ..... Los Gatos  
 Parsons, Robert James ..... Seaside  
 Patz, Edward Phillip ..... San Jose

Peterman, Vernon James ..... Mountain View  
 Powell, Donald Rex ..... San Jose  
 Richardson, John D. .... San Francisco  
 Ritter, John Winfield ..... Bishop  
 Robertson, Warren W. .... San Jose  
 Russell, Ray Gerald ..... Roseville  
 Ryden, Jack Vern ..... Placerville  
 Sampson, Lawrence Kent ..... Livermore  
 Scapuzzi, Donald Wayne ..... Jackson  
 Schafer, Carl Revy ..... Redding  
 Sexauer, Timothy Edward ..... Dublin  
 Shafter, Melvin Louis ..... Roseville  
 Shirkey, Larry Graves ..... Antioch  
 Sinnicks, Mark Lewis, Jr. .... Mill Valley  
 Snyder, Timothy Wayne ..... Woodland  
 Stapleton, James Gerald ..... Citrus Heights  
 Stapp, Gerald Walter ..... Grass Valley  
 Steinhart, Richard H. .... Petaluma  
 Stoutenburg, Thomas Ward ..... Bishop  
 Sturgess, Bryant Noxon ..... Carmichael  
 Sylvester, Franklin L. .... Fresno  
 Tilton, Allan Gloyd ..... Santa Rosa  
 Wagner, Richard Henry Frank ..... Sebastopol  
 Waugh, Jim Edward ..... Oroville  
 Weir, James William ..... Concord  
 Whie, Gary Wayne ..... Pacific Grove  
 Whittenmore, Merle Wayne, Jr. .... Altaville  
 Wildman, Herbert Harman ..... San Francisco  
 Yeoman, Donald Fent ..... Sacramento  
 Yttreness, Monte Dale ..... Sacramento

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

Aalbers, Glen Lee ..... Redlands  
 Bailey, Randall S. .... Riverside  
 Becker, William George ..... Woodland Hills  
 Bennie, Roger Eugene ..... El Cajon  
 Bergmann, Howard Fred ..... Westminster  
 Berry, Michael Sliney ..... Bakersfield  
 Bjoin, Holten Alvern ..... El Cajon  
 Blake, Jonathan Koesters ..... Encinitas  
 Breen, Thomas Michael ..... Walnut  
 Broderick, James Robert ..... Garden Grove  
 Brown, Jamie William, Sr. .... Reseda  
 Brown, Richard Louis ..... San Diego  
 Brunetto, Robert Henry ..... Ontario  
 Bush, Keith Franklin ..... Huntington Beach  
 Carey, William Samuel ..... Ventura  
 Carter, William Craig ..... Brea  
 Coady, Michael John ..... Thousand Oaks  
 Cobb, Richard Allen ..... La Mesa  
 Cotton, Larry Eugene ..... Highland  
 Coykendall, Scott Glenn ..... Duarte  
 Crispin, Lew Harold, Jr. .... Los Angeles  
 Crouch, Donald Louis ..... Lake Hughes  
 del Castillo, Ruel ..... Mission Viejo  
 Dempsey, Edmund, Sideny ..... Newhall  
 Dettelbach, William Harold ..... Monrovia  
 Dorsey, James Robert ..... Simi Valley  
 Doyle, Gerald Paul ..... Riverside  
 Duffy, James Martin ..... Monrovia  
 Duhamel, Leon Robert ..... Long Beach  
 Flores, Ricardo Torres ..... Colton  
 Forsberg, Russell William ..... San Diego  
 Foster, Duane C. .... San Bernardino  
 Frank, Roger Alan ..... Placentia  
 Gardner, Philip Kent, Jr. .... Anaheim  
 Giggy, Robert Lee ..... Bakersfield  
 Giurbino, Phillip James ..... Riverside  
 Greene, Floyed Leland ..... Long Beach

*(Continued on page 17)*



**PASSED L.S.I.T. EXAM** (Continued from page 16)

Greif, Casper Joseph	Huntington Beach
Gronberg, David Allan	Santa Ana
Guida, Ralph William, III	Santa Ana
Hachiya, Donald Takeshi	Long Beach
Haennelt, Hugh Harry	La Habra Heights
Hale, Thomas, III	Solvang
Hammock, Mitchell Lee	Yucaipa
Harris, Bertrand Earl	Torrance
Hendrix, Virgil Lee	Northridge
Hobbs, Joseph Loren	Lemon Grove
Holder, Joseph Edward	Pico Rivera
Horn, Danny Freeman	Ojai
Horn, Robert Alan	El Monte
Hoyal, Raymand Glen	Downey
Huebner, Randall Lee	Lacanada
Hurni, Gale Wayne	Santee
Imborski, James John	San Bernardino
Jackson, Robert Edwin, Jr.	Riverside
Johnson, Brian Theodore	Long Beach
Johnson, Edmund Lloyd	Tarzana
Jones, Robert Lawrence	La Crescenta
Kehrberg, Robert James	West Covina
Kipper, Daniel Jay	Riverside
Kish, William Steve	Valencia
Kistler, William Lamar	Costa Mesa
Kleindienst, David Joseph	Sepulveda
Knutsen, Ralph Harlan	Carlsbad
Krepp, Charles Martin	Fountain Valley
La Casella, Joseph Frank	Burbank
La Force, Louis Martin	Canoga Park
Lambert, Joseph Fred	Cerritos
Landers, Charles Ray, Jr.	Pasadena
Lansberry, Dale Hawkins	Simi Valley
Large, William Edwin	Garden Grove
Leyva, Robert Elias	Monterey Park
Lisko, Mark Paul	Inglewood
Longo, Michael Patrick	Frazier Park
Ludwig, Arnold Scott	Canoga Park
Lyons, Michael Thomas	Rialto
Lyons, Ronald V.	San Diego
Manges, George W., Jr.	La Crescenta
McBride, William	San Diego
McKinley, Jerome Irving	El Cajon
McRobbie, David Stuart	Upland
Mejia, Ramon Guadalupe	Rowland Heights
Mertens, Donald Roy	Van Nuys
Miller, Frank Gerald	Long Beach
Miller, Robert B.	Arcadia
Mills, Francis Owen	Canoga Park
Milovic, Noel Anthony	Pasadena
Munnell, Lawrence Blair	Los Angeles
Murray, William Earl	Huntington Beach
Musser, Ronald Alvin	Riverside
Nelson, Kenneth Glen	Oxnard
Newton, Otto, Jr.	Oxnard
O'Haver, Paul Hubert	Long Beach
Pearson, Larry Douglas	Riverside
Peterson, Norman Dean	Hacienda Heights
Peterson, Raymond Douglas	Escondido
Petyo, Michael	Santa Ana
Pizzo, Ernest John	Diamond Bar
Preece, Steven Wayne	Valencia
Prescott, William Allen	Fontana
Reuter, Charles Allen	Sangus
Roaro-Jasso, William M.	Yorba Linda
Rumsey, J. Michael	Valencia
Sakaguchi, Tom Hisayoshi	Redlands
Sanz, Manuel Vincent	Glendale
Schenet, Edward Lewis	Garden Grove
Seidler, Robert Joseph	Long Beach
Sekel, Thomas F.X.	Arcata
Seminaro, Mark Louis	San Bernardino
Shapiro, Michael Arthur	Lakeview Terrace
Skeek, Walter Alonzo	Long Beach

Showalter, William Righard	Running Springs
Shuart, Gary George	Alta Loma
Snider, Keith Alan	Encino
Stearns, Jack	Buena Park
Stewart, Larry Charles	Canoga Park
Stone, Jimmie R.	Woodland Hills
Stone, Richard Ernest	Torrance
Stout, Duane Raymond	Anaheim
Taylor, Robert Ray	Los Angeles
Taylor, Stephan Craig	Canoga Park
Thorp, James Howard	EiverRiverside
Thunstrom, Ralph Everett	Stanton
Toomey, Loren K.	El Toro
Troxel, Charles Darrell	Huntington Beach
Tsuchiya, Thomas	Los Angeles
Tucker, John Edward, Jr.	Granada Hills
Turner, Allen R. A.	El Cajon
Van Vlear, Lauren William	Tujunga
Wardle, Greg C.	Ventura
Weaver, Wade Douglas	Altadena
Welker, James Phillip	Cathedral City
Williams, John Frank	Bakersfield
Woolsey, Calvin Eugene	Dana Point
Wooton, Porter James	Simi Valley
Wootton, Ronald William	Vista
Ybarra, Gabriel Delgado	Riverside

**MANKIND** (Continued from page 10)

was a deal to give the public insurance against poor workmanship with the premium coming out of the monopoly because something for nothing is against the rules. Then when the State abrogated its part of the monopoly contract with the surveyors and gave it as part of a package deal to the engineers, the surveyors got all bent out of shape. And when they found that the State's own university didn't even ask their CE's to take just one little course in surveying and the State's own examining board gave the CE's the package deal without the necessity of answering just one little question about surveying, the surveyors suddenly got very uptight about it.

So they formed a minority group, along with the grape-pickers and the black people because minority groups were very big in politics and they saw they would have to get into politics to get the law changed. They called their group 'CLSA' because nobody uses names anymore, just initials. Well, Grandpa got himself mixed up with CLSA and now he goes to meetings on weekends so that, Timmie, is why his garden got so full of weeds.

Grandpa will tell you the rest of the story as soon as he finds out how it ends.

<p><b>CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p> <p>Rates: \$2/line CLSA members; \$4/line non-members and business</p>
<p><b>LAND SURVEY DESCRIPTIONS —</b>                  Wattles 10th Edition Revised &amp; updated.                  \$7.50 per copy plus tax.                  Check or money order, no CODs.                  P.O. Box 5702, Orange, CA 92667</p>

This measure was signed by the Governor on Sept. 25, 1973 and is now Chapter 731 of the California Statutes.

**Introduced by Senator Behr**

*An act to add Section 3512.1 to the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to property tax sales.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 446, as amended, Behr. Property tax sales.

Requires assessor to furnish to the tax collector a metes and bounds or lot-block-tract description of property scheduled to be tax deeded to the state.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no state funding.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 3512.1 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

3512.1. When property is scheduled to be tax deeded to the state, the assessor shall furnish, by June 15, to the tax collector, a metes and bounds or lot-block-tract description of the property.

SECTION 2. In enacting this act, the Legislature hereby determines and finds that any duties, obligations, or responsibilities imposed on local government are minor in nature and do not result in a significant new program for local government, or a significant increase in level of service of an existing mandated program, and no additional economic burden or cost is intended to be imposed hereby. Therefore, and solely as a result of this finding and determination, ~~no appropriation is made by this act, nor is any obligation created thereby under Section 2164.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code for reimbursement of any local agency for any costs that may be incurred by it.~~ *there are no state-mandated local costs in this act that require reimbursement under Section 2164.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.* ▲

**STUDENTS SEEK SUMMER EMPLOYMENT**

*by Richard J. Stephan, L.S.*

There are students in various surveying programs around the state who are available for summer employment. These students are in need of some practical experience to round out their education and some just compensation to see them through the next school year. If you can use the service of one or more of these people in the field or in your office, contact any of the following schools:

Dr. K. Jeyapalan, School of Engineering, California State University, Fresno, 93740.

Mr. Joel Radio, Department of Engineering, Monterey Peninsula College, 980 Fremont, Monterey, 93940, Phone 408-375-9821.

Mr. Hal Walker, Santa Rosa Junior College, 1501 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, 95401, Phone 707-527-4376.

Sacramento City College, 3835 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento, 95818, Phone 916-449-7443. ▲

**NEW NAMES FOR OLD**

*by James N. Dowden, L.S.*

In 1973, the National Ocean Survey officially changed the name of the Vertical Reference Datum of the United States.

Henceforth, "Sea Level Datum of 1929" will now be known as the National Geodetic Vertical Datums of 1929; abbreviated NGVD-1929.

The change is in name or designation only, and does not reflect a readjustment of the National Vertical Control network, or the establishment of a new plane or reference.

The main reason for the name change was to eliminate the confusion with "Mean Sea Level", the primary tidal datum plane.

When SLD Level Datum of 1929 was first established as a result of a readjustment of the national precise level net during the later part of the '20's, the Datum was set very close to the plane of mean SLD level as determined by long period tide observations at locations throughout the country.

Since that time, continuous tide observations over the past 45 years have demonstrated an apparent general increase in the level of the seas to the extent that since 1924, mean sea level at the presidio tide station as determined by a nineteen-year running mean, has risen 0.33 foot. It is immediately apparent that the Geodetic Datum and the Primary Tidal Datum (mean sea level) are no longer synonymous.

As there are daily, weekly, monthly, and annual variations in mean sea level, the 19 year running mean, probably gives the most accurate picture of the relationship of the land-sea interface.

The reasons for the apparent rise in mean sea level is as yet, undetermined.

It is uncertain whether the land is subsiding, or the beds are rising.

Theories include glacial rebound, less water locked up in the form of ice, or simply a yet undetected long period oceanic wave.

Theory & conjecture notwithstanding, drop "MSL" and "SLD" from your vocabulary, and substitute "NGVD" and you will be accurate if not precise! ▲

**TAGGING OF MONUMENTS**

The Board has interpreted Sections 8762 and 8772 of the Land Surveyors Act to require that a corner monument when found, used and accepted as a monument by a registered civil engineer or land surveyor, should be perpetuated by placing his identification tag on the monument if no such tag is affixed at the time he uses the monument.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION NEWSLETTER ▲

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**PEER REVIEW** (Continued from page 11)

review of work of local attorneys. The bill has not passed, however, and we have no assurance when it will be passed, or if it will provide sufficient peer review.

In the meantime, perhaps the local chapters should attempt to develop some form of peer review and guidance for legal surveying. Our chapter has made some attempts in this direction, mostly on the order of occasional mutual criticism and comparison of methods. The mutual criticism tends not to be very well received. As an alternate to this, we are thinking about the approach of having those members who feel confident enough in their knowledge of the field of legal surveying to bring some of their work before the chapter meetings for criticism by the others present. This would be strictly voluntary. The person would be allowed to defend his work and to explain his reasons for doing it in a particular manner. Probably the first to bring their work forward for review would be the more mature surveyors. All those present should gain considerable knowledge from the interchange that ensues.

By having it strictly voluntary, those who are afraid of criticism would not need to expose themselves to it. By bringing completed work, ready for recordation, or some that has already been recorded, to be reviewed, the results of the discussion may be far more penetrating than the informal comparison of methods that has been used before. Henry Sipe has sort of led the way into this approach by making the details of one of his recent pieces of work available for inspection. It will be interesting to see what can be developed in the line of peer review within the chapters. ▲

*The West Virginia Surveyor*

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES  
IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD  
OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL  
ENGINEERS**

Notice is hereby given that the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, pursuant to authority vested by Sections 6716 and 8710 of the Business and Professions Code, and to implement, interpret or make specific Section 6775 of said Code, proposes to adopt regulations in Title 16 of the California Administrative Code as follows:

(1) Add Section 415 to read.

415. Practice Within Area of Competence. A professional engineer or land surveyor registered or licensed under this Code shall practice and perform engineering or land surveying work only in the field or fields in which he is by education and experience fully competent and proficient.

NOTE: Additional authority cited for Section 415: Sections 6775 and 8780, Business and Professions Code. ▲

**LICENSE AS A LAND SURVEYOR OR LAND SURVEY-  
OR-IN-TRAINING**

An applicant for license as a land surveyor is now required to take and pass a series of written examinations unless he is qualified for a waiver according to current Board Rules. The examination series consists of two parts. The first part is called the Land Surveyor-in-Training examination, or LSIT. The second part requires 8 hours of written work. The LSIT and the Land Surveyor examinations are scheduled separately. For detailed information please write the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers for Information Bulletins 73-2A and 74-3B.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION NEWSLETTER ▲

**WRIGHT REPLACES NANCE**

Don Wright has been appointed as Executive Secretary of the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers.

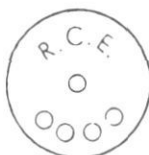
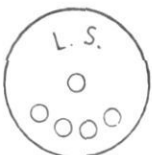
Mr. Wright replaced Mr. Don H. Nance who resigned as Executive Secretary to the Board on April 1, 1974.▲

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## LAND SURVEYOR TECHNICIAN OR PROFESSIONAL

by *Gurdon H. Wattles, L.S.*

Although there is some manifestation of increased surveying curricula (witness the four-year courses now offered by Purdue and California University, Fresno, there must still be more concentrated and concerted effort at the different levels of education if surveying is to remain intact and expand as a profession.

The reports in Professor Robert Howe's paper<sup>a</sup> on survey activities in Germany, parts of Canada and some of the States are very interesting, and they show how each area is applying coordinates to its problems.

Because the development of coordinates falls into an easy-to-use formula-ized method of procedure, it is fun to play with them; and once you get started, it is hard to draw the line as to where to stop using them.

Coordinates are a wonderful *tool* for mapping; also they are excellent for checking positions by photogrammetry to approximate any ground locations in searching for previously established survey corners. Furthermore, there is no question of their value in triangulation and correlatively for checking time related positions, i.e., before and after earthquakes, landslides, etc.

However, the procedure of simply applying coordinates is NOT the answer for legal property and line and corner establishment.

The mathematically formula-ized derivation or assignment of points on the earth is not compatible with the creation of legal descriptions of property ownership which has been upheld by the processes of law and decrees of courts of our land ever since the founding fathers began their bartering of the soil.

Professor Howe has lamented "the problems of inadequate deed descriptions and surveys". If such is the case, meaningful betterment of the situation would be accomplished by dispensing better education on **LEGAL DESCRIPTION WRITING** and **PROPERTY BOUNDARY CONTROL SURVEYING**.

The insertion of a cliché here would be illustrative, "It may be accurate but it may not necessarily be correct." One may have traversed a polygonic area of several thousand feet achieving an error of closure of 1:50,000. This would be considered fairly accurate work; but, if the tape were subsequently compared with an invar standard and found to be short 0.03 of a foot in every 100.00 feet, the survey would be *incorrect*.

A practitioner of accurate land measurements is a Technical Surveyor.

A Professional Surveyor is one who gathers facts of measurements and physical conditions, applicable rules of law, and facts of record with past and present information for comparative analysis. He also considers the method of creation of the situation at hand, endeavors to "follow in the footsteps" of the creator surveyor, analyzes the "majority probability" status, and arrives at a conclusion based upon mature judgment of all the involved facets. This, of course, is far more intricate than assigning coordinates, but a

"Professional" is recognized for his over-all consideration of the problem rather than a simplified short-cut method.

To cure a disease, one should work on the cause instead of the effect.

So, instead of trying to correct the "problem" by applying a salve of coordinates on the effect, let us get to work on the cause by *developing and instituting courses at both collegiate and technical levels to assure covering the following subject matter:*

1. History of land titles in the United States of America.
2. Reason for and methods of recording documents and in particular those for conveyancing.
3. Development of description forms.
4. Correlative value and interrelationship of descriptions and maps.
5. Interpretation and use of words from a legal standpoint.
6. Law that is applicable to surveying, mapping, monuments and boundary determination.
7. Analysis of descriptions for sufficiency in references and ties to both physical things and matters of record, including monuments and legal boundaries.
8. Relationship of easements, fee and appurtenances.
9. Status of occupation vs. title.
10. Full indoctrination of the U.S. Rectangular Survey System and rules pertaining thereto. (It is recognized, of course, that this does not apply to the original thirteen colony area and Texas, although anyone in these areas considering the practice of surveying elsewhere should include this subject.)
11. Water boundary rules that apply to the innumerable prevailing conditions.
12. Development, application and limitations of the use of coordinates.
13. Recognition of whether a survey controls the description or the description controls the survey.
14. Analysis and application of the above facts to field survey reconnaissance and boundary control.
15. Complete training in measurement techniques and equipment.
16. Mastery of writing indisputable descriptions under any circumstance.

With such detailed background of information, the surveyor will have a comprehensive framework upon which to base judgment, make decisions and exhibit professionalism.

In conclusion, if the now licensed surveyors are to uphold their professional status not only currently but also through the upcoming embryonic aspirants and those in actual preparation to becoming registered, it behooves them (the now licensed ones) to be concerned. Toward that goal, it would be well to make extra effort to correct the insufficiency of education in this discipline.

By the operation of intelligently planned programs, forthcoming surveyors will be prepared to demonstrate professionalism. ▲

<sup>a</sup>July 1972 by Robert T. Howe, *Journal of the SURVEYING AND MAPPING DIV., ASCE (Process Paper 9065)*.

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## The California Surveyor

Published Quarterly by the  
CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 3707  
Hayward, CA 94540  
Roy Watley, Jr., L.S., EDITOR  
Michael McKissick, L.S., Assist. Editor

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