

27. (CONSTRUCTION OF AN ISLAND AND DRILLING OF A WELL; THE TEXAS COMPANY, WILMINGTON ASSOCIATES, INC., AND MONTEREY OIL COMPANY - P.R.C. 186.) Colonel Putnam made an informal report to the Commission on the developments that have been taking place over the past several years in connection with the operations off Seal Beach concerning P.R.C. 186. He recalled that a question came up in 1947 as to whether the requirements of the expression used under Section 6873(a) of the Public Resources Code, "Each well ... shall be drilled only upon filled lands or ...", would be met by the construction of an island. The Attorney General indicated in June of 1947 that it would be. In the fall of 1948 a public hearing was held by the United States Engineers to determine whether or not they would recommend the issuance of a permit for the island. The State Lands Commission passed a resolution prior to that hearing, urging favorable action by the United States Army Engineers; and later, at a meeting on October 14, 1948, the Commission approved the location, specifications, and plans for the island, and recommended that future wells be drilled from such filled lands.

The application for the permit from the Army Engineers was stopped by the United States Department of Justice, and has been held up until quite recently, when the matter was revived. Both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice have now withdrawn their objections, and it is understood that the necessary Army permit is being issued. The State Lands Commission has just received an application for the drilling of a well at the approved location of the island, and it is proposed to process this as a normal well-drilling operation. The procedure will be to study it, offer it to the Los Angeles representative of the United States Department of the Interior, and, with his approval, the project can get under way. The application which has been submitted meets all standards previously set by the Commission as to location, etc. No Commission action is believed necessary, as the procedure now to be taken was approved sometime ago by the Commission.

28. (DEFALCATIONS, ~~BERNICE~~ E. MEAGHER, RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS CLERK - PERSONNEL.) As a result of a routine audit, it was found that Bernice E. Meagher, Receipts and Disbursements Clerk, had committed defalcations, the total sum of which amounted to \$939.75. The money was misappropriated from the State Lands Commission's Revolving Fund by means of forgery.

Mrs. Meagher has been a faithful State employee for a period of some 23 or 24 years, having worked for various State agencies, including the Division of Fish and Game, and the State Lands Commission. Up to the time of the present incident she had faithfully discharged her duties in a very difficult position, and handled what is considered to be an unusually heavy workload in a highly satisfactory manner.

Mrs. Meagher has tendered her resignation from State service, and has agreed to a means of total restitution of all peculations through application of her retirement contributions.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE COMMISSION RULED THAT IF COMPLETE RESTITUTION IS MADE OF THE TOTAL MONIES MISAPPROPRIATED BERNICE E. MEAGHER'S RESIGNATION BE CONFIRMED, WITH THE PROVISIO THAT THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD, THE BONDING COMPANY, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY, AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BE FULLY ADVISED OF THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.