

**Straight Ahead**  
Greater Southern California

# Los Angeles Sunday Times

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## FINE LIBRARIES TO BE ERECTED

Plans for Six Structures Are Approved

Total Cost Will Exceed Two Hundred Thousand

All Sections of City Will be Given Service

New branch libraries, of which five are now planned for immediate erection in Los Angeles, largely occupied the attention of the Municipal Art Commission during the past year, according to an annual report of that body to Mayor Cryer. During the past twelve months, the commission examined plans for sixty-one structures of a public or semi-public nature, these buildings carrying a total valuation of \$1,477,025, a marked increase over the number or plans filed during the preceding year.

Designs for six beautiful branch library buildings were approved; these structures to represent a total cost of approximately \$222,000. One of the largest and most important buildings of the entire group will be the new University branch library, to be located diagonally opposite the campus of the University of Southern California. On account of its location, a design that will harmonize with the proposed new building of the university was selected, and the structure will follow the early Romanesque architecture of North Italy.

The site for the structure is 130 feet square. In order to utilize the available ground space as efficiently as possible, the cloverleaf plan of design was adopted, and lighting treatment generally used in the Romanesque churches, providing an overhead diffusion, was adopted.

The exterior finish will be of common brick, with rough joints, and the trim will be of artificial stone. The roof will be built of tile, in shades ranging from tan to dark gun metal. The building, it is estimated, will cost about \$50,000. Hibbard, Gerity & Kerton are the architects.

### SAN PEDRO LIBRARY

The new San Pedro library, designed by Architects Farrell and Miller, and to be erected at a cost of \$10,000, will occupy a site at the northwest corner of Tenth and Gaffey streets. Keeping with the Spanish tradition of the community, the architecture of Northern Spain will be followed, although the detail will be handled with considerable freedom.

The exterior walls will be of a ruddy colored stucco, and the trim will be of terra cotta. The roof will be of interlaced clay tiles, in shades of burnt orange and red.

The use of ornamentation has been restricted in the design of the building, and will be confined largely to the main windows and entrances. The site is located on high ground, and additional elevation will be afforded by the use of a terrace, planted to lawns and shrubbery.

### MONETA BRANCH

The Moneta library will also follow the Spanish style of architecture, with simple lines and plain surface predominating. The building, however, will be built in the form of a castle, the central feature of which will be a tower which will have a practical purpose of giving daylight to the central portion of the building.

The structure will be of Class C construction, with hollow tile walls, steel girders and composition-covered flat roof. It is hoped that the appropriation of funds for the structure will permit the inclusion in the plans of a community-conference room, and also the use of terra cotta stones around the main entrance.

The building will be set well back from the street, and will be

Where Booklovers of Los Angeles May Browse to Their Hearts' Content



Hollywood Branch Library

surrounded with trees and shrubbery. The site for the building, which will cost about \$30,000, is located at the corner of Forty-third and Olive streets. Lyman Farwell is the architect.

### TO SERVE HOLLYWOOD

One of the most attractive of the new branch libraries will be located at the northwest corner of Forty-third and Olive streets.

The exterior will be of a warm

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## DELAYS COST PUBLIC VAST SUM ANNUALLY

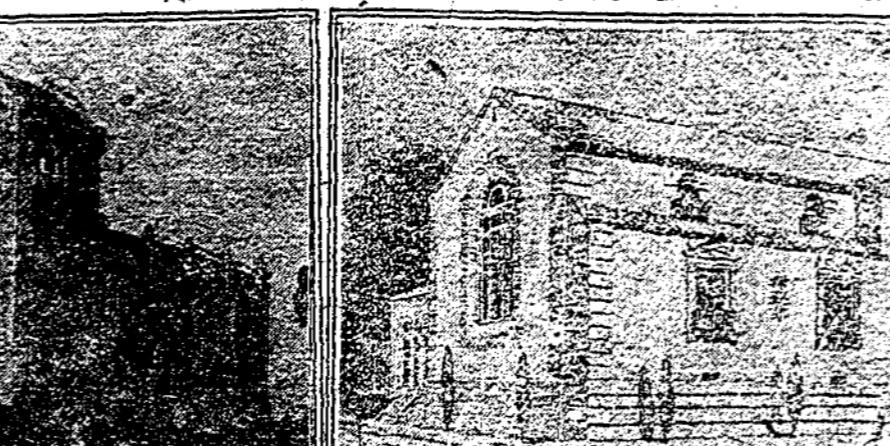
### Three Quarters of Million Wasted Yearly Owing to Shortage of Help in Building Department

Delays in the issuance of building permits and in the inspection of buildings in process of construction, owing to the inadequate force of employees in the building department of the city, are costing the public of Los Angeles \$750,000 per year, according to C. V. Welch, Assistant Chief Inspector of Buildings.

At the present time there are plans to the value of \$16,000,000, filed with the building department, and the checking force is three weeks behind in its work. If building activity continues to increase in its present ratio, the department will take a month to five weeks to catch up with the backlog. At the present rate, it will be practically impossible to issue permits within a reasonable length of time. Just prior to the Christmas holidays, Mr. Welch said—the department was about fourteen days behind, but applicants have increased so rapidly since then that it is now thought that about three weeks is now required for the issuance of a permit.

This situation is ascribed by Mr. Welch not only to the fact that the number of employees allowed to the department which has become one of the busiest in the city administration has been reduced, but also to the fact that the salaries of the department have been raised so low that it is practically impossible to get efficient and experienced employees. In the checking department the department is allowed eleven men, but at the present time there are only seven at work. When there are plenty of applications, the men do not work so long that the positions cannot be filled. The department has advertised for more men for this department.

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San Pedro Library



Moneta Branch



Bungalow Library



University Branch

### Approved Designs for New Branch Libraries

The Hollywood Branch Library, at Hollywood Boulevard and Vine streets, was designed by Architects Dodd & Richards. The San Pedro library, located at the corner of Tenth and Gaffey streets, was designed by Architects Farrell & Miller, will be built at Forty-third and Olive streets. The University library, to be built at the corner of University avenue and Thirty-fourth street, was designed by Architects Hibbard, Gerity & Kerton, and the Fligerson street library, designed by C. E. Noerenberg, will be erected at the corner of Eighth and Fligerson streets.

### FACT AND COMMENT

Convenience of the public is not necessarily the first consideration of the City Commission, but when it comes in subjects worthy of some consideration, and with Los Angeles facing a year of building activity that promises to exceed even that of 1922, some serious thought might probably be given to the needs of the building department in making an additional appropriation, or perhaps even an additional amount of money, to the checker's office or the matter of more men to check the plans which are submitted to the building department for approval before the prospective builder can proceed with actual construction work.

The situation in the building department is really serious. Literally hundreds of plans for all types of structures are now in the racks, waiting the attention of the checking department and some of these plans will wait there for weeks before any action is taken.

This is not to say that the department has been running short-handed, as it has been running short-handed.

During 1922, according to the report made by the department to the Board of Public Works, the department of buildings showed a net profit of more than \$135,000, and even with the additional expenditure of \$50,000 for salaries, a wide margin of profit will be left.

The Pacific Southwest Trust and Savings Bank, acting as trustee, sold to Isaac Brothers Company, Inc., the northwest corner of Seventh and Wilmer streets for \$150,000, the deal involving all cash.

The property is 112x120 feet. The elderly hall is now improved with a one-story brick building occupied by the Johns-Manville Company, but the new owner plans to improve the inside fifty feet with a new building to correspond with that now on the property.

The Consolidated Realty Company has sold the lot on the west side of Flower street, between Eighth and Ninth, to Fred W. Sigel for \$82,500, and at this location Sigel will erect a modern height-limit hotel building.

The property has a frontage of fifty feet on Flower street, with a depth of 155 feet.

George Hart, one of the owners

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## BIG TOTAL IN SALES

### Property to Value of Nearly Million Dollars Transferred Through Local Realty Firm

Property sales in the downtown district aggregating more than \$800,000 in valuation were reported yesterday by the Charles A. Andrew Company, agents in the transactions. Among the most important of these sales was the transfer of sixty feet of frontage on the west side of Hill street, adjoining the Junior Orpheum Building to a Detroit investor for a cash consideration of \$240,000. The property was bought from the Title Insurance and Trust Company, which was represented by W. W. Miles in the deal. The property, now improved with a one-story building, was bought for investment, and no further improvements will be made, according to the agents.

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### School Leases Floor of Sun Drug Building

The Murray-Gerber Company, realtors, announce through J. A. Hutchings of its sales and leasing department the closing of a ten-year lease on the entire twelfth floor, 65x133 feet, of the new Sun Drug Building at Seventh and Hill streets, to the Los Angeles Business College for the Sun Realty Company.

The Los Angeles Business College, the oldest in Los Angeles, was established in the year of 1882. For the last two years it has been located in the Union League Building at Second and Hill streets, and for twelve years previous to that at Eighth and Hill streets. In 1912 it absorbed the Heads Business College.

Enrollment of classes now, both in the day and night school, is under way. The enrollment in the night school greatly exceeds all expectations.

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