

Chronic Diseases Ward

Board Made Far-Reaching Decision On Lease Plan

By Norman Indahl

One of the most important and far-reaching decisions of the board of supervisors this year was the move Monday to sell the partially completed chronic diseases ward to speed up the housing of aged hospital patients.

This is the consensus of opinion of the supervisors. Since the early 1920's the Santa Cruz county grand jury has recommended that adequate housing be provided.

"Construction of a chronic diseases ward is the gravest responsibility the supervisors and the people have," Board Chairman Francis Silliman said.

Supervisors will sell the building to a builder who is the highest bidder upon the condition he lease the edifice to the county for a fair and reasonable price. The

board resolution calls for a 20-year lease with an option to renew after 20 years. An option to purchase will also be in the agreement.

With a solution to the problem after a two-year study, the supervisors can give more attention to two primary county building problems, Silliman claimed — courthouse planning and new kitchen and laundry facilities for the county hospital.

One of the first acts of the present board of supervisors was ordering work halted on the controversial Emeline avenue structure last February. Supervisors considered the removal of aged patients from the inadequate wooden barracks an urgent step.

For practically two years Supervisors Lewis Nelson and Vincent Locatelli have been studying different methods by which to speed the building of a home for the aged. Nelson, mainly responsible for mapping the groundwork for the unique plan, has been devoting a major portion of his time the last three months to bringing the project to a head.

A great deal of time was spent in checking buildings in Los Angeles county, which has pioneered this method of construction for county edifices.

One of the reasons for putting the property up for sale was the possibility of a number of future bond elections, the board resolution states. Elections are contemplated in the near future to raise money for water development in the county and sewage and sanitation facilities which will increase the tax burden upon property owners in the county.

The board also was of the opinion it would not be feasible to hold a bond election now to raise funds for construction of the chronic diseases ward to house aged hospital patients.

Two real estate appraisers will be hired to set a fair and reasonable rental value on the building.

The 116-bed ward is earmarked for completion in approximately eight months with occupancy next April. One wing of the building is planned for short term psychiatric patients.

Morals Charge Lodged Against Roland R. Poggi

Three counts of felony morals charges were filed today against Roland Raphael Poggi, 55, 5171 Los Gatos highway, by District Attorney Nick Drobac.

The charges entail lewd and lascivious conduct involving three 12-year-old girls.

Poggi was arrested by Juvenile Officer Herb Johnson of the sheriff's office Monday night and originally charged with statutory rape, but Drobac later changed the charges.

Sgt. Johnson arrested Poggi in his home after investigating reports.

Poggi listed his occupation as a mechanic on the jail register when booked.

Sports Calendar

TODAY Baseball

San Lorenzo Valley Little League—Ben Lomond vs. Felton, 6 p.m., SLV high school diamond; respective farm teams play at 4 p.m.

Softball

City Softball Associations—Elks