

Ben Lomond Rec District Sets Election

An election will be held March 8 in the Ben Lomond Recreation district to determine whether a 30 cent tax (per \$100 assessed valuation) should be levied for a maximum of five years to raise funds for the purchase of the old Ben Lomond school.

Jerry Shapro, district chairman, explained this morning the election has been called since "a certain amount of people" feel the district should regain use of the property for a recreation center.

"This is the only reason for the election," he emphasized.

The district tax is 50 cents. For the measure to pass, a simple majority vote is required.

The school district recently sold the old school property, which had been leased by the recreation district, to the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints for \$34,000.

Two recreation district officers feel the school trustees made a "quick sale" of the property and never gave the recreation commission a chance to purchase the site it had leased for a long time. Mrs. Alice Earl Wilder, commission secretary, charges the trustees "did not want the recreation district to have the property."

Shapro contends the trustees did not have a formal session with the commissioners regarding negotiations for the property after being promised the matter would be discussed at an open meeting.

Mrs. Wilder explained Dr. E. C. Browne, school board chairman, personally told her the trustees will meet with the commissioners to see if a fair sale price could be worked out.

In 1952 the commission made a formal request to purchase the property, according to the secretary.

At a school board meeting Dr. Browne declared that the consensus of board opinion is that trustees do not want a conference with the commissioners.

The recreation district had been operating the old school as a meeting place for all recreation activities in the community. Shapro feels there is "definite need" for a recreation center.