

Incorporation Urged

Scotts Valley Nearing City Vote Name Goal

Only 91 more signatures are needed to qualify the Scotts Valley area for an incorporation election, according to Mrs. Elmer Lewis, president of the Scotts Valley Property Owners association.

Her comment followed a question-and-answer session on incorporation last night by the Saratoga city attorney and the Seaside city manager.

Mrs. Lewis said the petition for cityhood needs 491 signatures total. About 400 have been secured. But the group plans to have 600 when it is submitted to the board of supervisors within the next two weeks. Deadline for filing is August 23.

Faver Johnston of Saratoga said Scotts Valley has a similar situation in his city. He said incorporation enables an area to do two things—zoning and street improvements. He said Saratoga is a minimum services city that contracts most services with the county of Santa Clara. The city has a 10-cent tax rate per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Gordon Forrest of Seaside said a general law city needs four employees—a city clerk, city treasurer, police chief, and fire chief.

The fire chief could be the present head of the area's fire district; the police chief could be the sheriff; the treasurer could be connected with a local bank; and

the clerk could be a volunteer worker. Volunteer work "can't be counted on forever," he cautioned.

Forrest said a tax rate depends upon the "level of services demanded by the people."

"If you have problems now because you have a growing population, they're going to continue and won't go away by ignoring them," Forrest warned the approximately 65 persons present.

L. J. Cardwell, who has coordi-

Lowell West Heads Soquel Old Timers

Lowell West was elected president of the Soquel Old Timers club at its annual picnic Saturday at Pringle grove, Soquel. Approximately 100 persons attended.

Also elected were: Roswald Weloh, vice president; Gertrude Forward, secretary-treasurer; and trustees, Hazel Bart, Mrs. John Maddock, and Ralph Mattison.

The group, made up of persons who have lived in Soquel vicinity for 25 years or more, descendants of pioneer families,

nated the incorporation drive between the association and the Scotts Valley Chamber of Commerce, said his area has a number of advantages; a rural atmosphere, a good fire protection district, good schools, and the nucleus for a water system.

"That's our advantages; now let me tell you our disadvantages," Cardwell said.

"We have practically no representation on the board of supervisors. We're extremely dissatisfied with the way we're governed."

"We've asked for zoning for three years and don't have it except in small spots. Do you think we're on the right track to incorporate?"

Both Johnston and Forrest said Scotts Valley appears to be doing the proper thing.

Johnston said the biggest opposition cityhood will have is convincing voters that those supporting incorporation don't want to change the area's rural atmosphere. He said opponents will naturally consider "city a hideous word" and will think of it as a sprawling metropolis. He said the strongest opponents to Saratoga incorporation turned out to be its strongest proponents.

"One of the best councilmen we ever had was a man whom the opposition voted in office," Johnston said.

A surprise speaker was Enoch S. Christoffersen, mayor of Turlock, who owns property in Scotts Valley. He urged the people to go ahead with incorporation.

Forrest attempted to clear up one point which has worried Scotts Valley residents. He said if the city of Santa Cruz annexes the Sky Park airport it cannot use the land as a place to start other annexations. (Santa Cruz officials have stressed this).

Johnston said the Coro foundation has conducted a study of economically successful cities and those who aren't doing so well financially. The foundation concluded that cities having an assessed valuation of \$700 per person succeed.

"Your area has approximately \$950 assessed valuation per person," he stated.

Business License Cutoff Tomorrow

Tomorrow is deadline for Santa Cruz city business licenses without penalty.

A 10 per cent additional fee will be made during August. That, the penalty will be 20 per cent for firms in business at the start of the year. Licenses are obtained at city hall.