

R 92  
L 673  
VF

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY  
300 CITY HALL

CITY OFFICIALS

NAME Lewis, Evan

PUBLIC OFFICES HELD

(DATE)

CITY:

City Assessor Dec. 5, 1904 - Dec. 4, 1906

City Planning Commission March 20, 1920

June 30, 1925

City Council

COUNTY:

1928-1939

1939-1941

STATE

FEDERAL:

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

South Park Improvement Association

**BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Paving contractor  
City official

**PORTRAIT:**

**ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED IN ENVELOPE:** attached

**PORTRAITS APPEARING ELSEWHERE (DATES)**

L.A. Times April 4, 1937  
L.A. Examiner Feb.25,1929  
L.A. Times Feb.25,1929

## **ANECDOTES AND PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS:**

Evan Lewis has a long and distinguished record of public service, beginning thirty-two years ago when he was City Assessor.

Mr. Lewis has been a consistent and vigorous foe of special assessments and special costs imposed on property.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**BOOKS:**

**NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS:**

Los Angeles Examiner Feb. 25, 1929

Los Angeles Times April 19, 1935

March 24, 1936

May 27, 1936

**PERSONAL INTERVIEW:** Sept. 17, 1936  
NONE

**INTERVIEWED BY:**

**DATE OF INTERVIEW**

**WRITTEN BY:** Florence H. Goddard  
May 20, 1937



## **EVAN LEWIS**

**City Council—Eighth District**

**Born July 2, 1869, Wales.**

**Naturalized 1890, Los Angeles.**

**Educated in Wales.**

**Married; one son.**

**Residence in California since 1888.**

**Career:** Paving and contracting business; over forty-five years in civic activities and public service; long an active foe of special assessments against property owners.

**Public Offices:** City Assessor, 1904-1906; City Planning Commission, 1920-1925 (representing South Park Improvement Association); City Council, appointed to succeed Mayor Shaw, 1928-1929; elected, 1929-1931, 1931-1933, 1933-1935, 1935-1937, 1937-1939.

**Council Committees:** Chairman, Public Works; State and County Affairs; Harbor.

# Lewis Will Ask Reelection for Council Post

*L.H. Evans  
3-25-29*  
Councilman Evan Lewis yesterday formally announced his candidacy to succeed himself as representative

from the Eighth Councilmanic district at the May primary.

Mr. Lewis several months ago was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Frank L. Shaw, who was elected Supervisor.

Mr. Lewis takes the position that the home owners should be relieved from the burden of special assessments by greater allocations

**EVAN LEWIS**  
Enters Council Race  
from public funds to the improvements.

He has lived in Los Angeles over forty years, and has been a resident of the district for fifteen years.

At one time Mr. Lewis served as City Assessor.

"One of the most vexing problems confronting the property owners of Los Angeles," Mr. Lewis said, "is the matter of special assessments. The taxpayer can be granted material relief through more substantial allocations of public funds toward reducing the costs of improvements to the individual property owners. To this end I pledge myself to devote my vigorous effort to reduce the assessment burden of the home owners."

# FRIENDS IN CITY HALL MOURN PASSING OF COUNCILMAN LEWIS

Councilman Evan Lewis of the Eighth Councilmanic District, one of the most colorful figures at the city hall for a number of years, died May 5.

He died of a lingering heart ailment at his home, 268 East Fiffieth Street.

During his lifetime, Lewis had kept his age a secret, and considerable mystery was attached to it even up to the time of his death. However, the family said he was about 72, having been born in 1869 in Wales.

His illness caused him to decide last February not to run for a councilmanic post again.

As the candidate elected in the Eighth district will not take office for the new term until July 1, the City Council is required under the city charter to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term of Councilman Lewis.

It is believed that the Council would probably select whoever is elected on May 6 to serve until July 1, so that he will have nearly two months in office in addition to the regular term.

Lewis himself first became a councilman by appointment, having been chosen by the council in 1928 to succeed Frank L. Shaw, who had been elected a member of the Board of Supervisors and who later became mayor.

Lewis was elected for a full term in 1929



and served continuously until his last illness kept him at home.

The district roughly is bounded by Alameda Street on the east, Vermont Avenue on the west, Vernon Avenue on the north and Manchester on the south.

Councilman Lewis was one of the most colorful men in the council.

He gained the reputation of being able to say "no" or "yes" to any administration more emphatically than any other legislator.

When he thought he was right, there was no intimidating or cajoling him.

He leaves his widow, and a son, Evan Lewis, Jr., a deputy district attorney.

Funeral services were held Friday, May 9, in Welsh Presbyterian Church, Twelfth and Valencia Streets.

Robert L. Burns, President of the City Council, delivered the eulogy.

## SICK LEAVE RESOLUTION

(Continued from Page 10)

sustained in the course of, or arising out of, and proximately caused by, the employee's duty as an employee of the Harbor Department (Class C absence), said employee shall be compensated under the Workmen's Compensation Insurance and Safety Act of the State of California and not under the provisions of this resolution; provided, however, that during the first week of said employee's absence from duty he shall receive a sum equal to seventy-five per cent (75%) of his salary for the period, to be paid out of his regular salary fund, said time to start to run from the date he is certified off duty by a doctor appointed by the City Attorney of the City of Los Angeles as a compensation doctor; and provided, further, that persons employed by the Harbor Department who are injured or disabled while in the course of their employment upon navigable waters of the United States or upon the high seas under circumstances where the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Insurance Safety Act of the State of California do not create liability on the part of said City in favor of such employees, such employees shall, nevertheless, as a part of their compensation, be allowed and given such medical, surgical, hospital and other remedial treatment as is requisite to cure and relieve from the effects of such injury; and the General Manager of the Harbor Department is hereby authorized and directed to accord to such employees so injured the same treatment and benefits as are accorded other employees of said department who are subject to and protected by said Workmen's Compensation Insurance Safety Act of the said State.

### ARE YOU A SKILLFUL DRIVER?

That person who can do something better than his friends and neighbors usually obtains greater pleasure and enjoys himself more in that particular activity. This is true of the "skillful" automobile driver. If he can drive a car better than the average, he knows how to take care of himself in traffic. He does not need to worry about the possibility of a collision because he knows how to avoid it. He is at all times alert and anticipates the possible blunders of pedestrians and other drivers. He does not need to worry about a mechanical failure because he knows in advance that his automobile is in good condition.

The "skillful" driver is not an over-confident person, according to the Collision Prevention Bureau, but one who, through constant alertness and practice, through the use of courtesy and carefulness, and through his interest in others, has perfected himself to a point where he is justly proud of his ability, and is ever mindful of his responsibility to prevent collisions.

Are you a "skillful" driver?

## TO OUR READERS

WITH this issue, The Los Angeles City Employee has returned to its former size—24 pages. The reduction of the number of pages printed the last few months was due to a falling off of advertising patronage. This has not been remedied. However, the Public Relations Committee is of the opinion that if the All City Employees' Association is to continue to publish a magazine, that magazine should contain information of interest to its readers.

Many times in the past the editor has appealed to the Association members for material. And many members have responded to this appeal by sending in items that they believed to be of interest, only to find that their contributions were not used.

We are now renewing that appeal—select someone in each department who will act as correspondent. Let's fill the pages with live news concerning the goings-on throughout the City Service. Too rough ribbing, will, of necessity, have to be barred, but good clean humor is always in order.

Now—last, but most important. Advertising is the lifeblood of this publication. Without it, the magazine will curl up and die. All readers can assist in a transfusion by doing their part to inject new advertising accounts into these columns. When you spend your money, mention the magazine, when you pay your bills, mention it. Keep plugging for it. In that way only can we impress upon our advertisers that their money is well spent by advertising in these columns. Let's try it.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE  
IN PART  
AUG 25 1941  
LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Eighth district****Evan Lewis**

City Assessor	Dec. 5, 1904 - Dec. 4, 1906
City Planning Commission	March 20, 1920 - June 30, 1925
Member of City Council	July 1, 1928 - May 5, 1941

Evan Lewis was born in Wales on July 2, 1869. When very young, he immigrated to the United States with his parents. On July 2, 1890, he became an American citizen by court decree in Los Angeles County.

On December 5, 1904, Mr Lewis was elected Los Angeles City Assessor for a two year term.

City Council created the City Planning Commission in 1920 by appointing representatives from 51 civic organizations to serve for three years. Mr. Lewis was one of these original members representing the South Park Improvement Association.

In 1928, Evan Lewis was appointed to City Council to finish the term of Frank Shaw who was elected to the County Board of Supervisors. Lewis was elected for a full term in 1929 and served continuously until his death on May 5, 1941.

During his tenure in Council, Mr. Lewis gained the reputation of being able to say "yes" or "no" more emphatically than any other legislator. When he thought he was right, there was no intimidating or cajoling him. Mr. Lewis was a Republican who vigorously fought against taxes and special assessments.