

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARY  
300 CITY HALL

CITY OFFICIALS

NAME Snyder, Meredith Pinxton, (deceased April 7, 1937)

PUBLIC OFFICES HELD

(DATE)

CITY:

Police Commission March 6, - Dec. 14, 1891  
City Council Dec. 12, 1894 - Dec. 17, 1896  
Mayor Dec. 16, 1896 - Dec. 15, 1898

~~COUNTY~~

Dec. 12, 1900 - Dec. 8, 1904  
July 7, 1919 - July 5, 1921  
Water and Power Commission 1913 - 1917

STATE

State Industrial Accident Commission 1931 - 1935

FEDERAL:

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

Pioneer merchant, realtor, and subdivider  
Introduction of modern business and investment policies  
Life long political activities.

Snyder, Meredith Pinxton

**BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Farmer  
Merchant and business man  
Realtor  
Banker  
Official and director of financial and  
industrial institutions  
City official  
State official

**PORTRAIT:**

**ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED IN ENVELOPE: attached**

**PORTRAITS APPEARING ELSEWHERE (DATES)**

See portrait Index

## ANECDOTES AND PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS:

Meredith P. Snyder, known as "Pinky" to thousands of people because of the color of his flaming red side-burns, was the only Los Angeles mayor to hold that office four times.

He arrived in the City when the resident white population consisted of about 5000 persons, and the transit system of a few blocks of horse-drawn cars on Main Street, and lived through the most eventful years of the city's growth. He was conspicuous in political and civic affairs practically from the time of taking up residence here.

Young Snyder arrived with five dollars in his pockets and immediately sought a job. His clerkship with B.F. Coulter paid him twenty-five dollars per month, with sleeping arrangements in a room behind the store.

The story runs that a man wearing a tall silk hat and Prince Albert coat appeared in Coulter's one day and was pointed out as the Mayor. Young Snyder is said to have left his drapery counter and followed the Mayor to the street. After watching the dignitary disappear he returned and announced to the other clerks. "I am going to be Mayor, myself, some day!"

Sixteen years after his arrival in Los Angeles he was. Arrayed in the stove-pipe hat and the long square coat tails he campaigned for the office and was elected by a majority of 1600, a record for the times.

Snyder was a worker all his life; he began working as a small boy, and at fourteen years of age was practical manager of three plantations. He enjoyed the strenuous active side of business and public life. In business he was progressive and modern and pioneered in merchandising, investment, and developmental enterprises, with a reputation of unusual success in all of them.

In politics he was the old-time Democratic

continued

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**BOOKS:**

List attached

**NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS:**

Los Angeles Times  
All local papers obituaries

**PERSONAL INTERVIEW:** Anecdotes by M.E. Palleske,  
nephew by marriage

**INTERVIEWED BY:** Karel Lynn

**DATE OF INTERVIEW** May 22, 1935

Rewritten by: Clare Wallace  
May 26, 1937

The Los Angeles Public Library  
Local History Collection  
Biography

NAME Snyder, Meredith Pinxton (deceased April 7, 1937)

Occupation Business man and banker

Address

Birth (Date and Place) October 22, 1858 Winston-Salem,  
North Carolina

FATHER Kehlin D. Snyder

Birth (Date and Place)

If Deceased, When

MOTHER Elizabeth Hire (Heiher)

Birth (Date and Place)

If Deceased, When

IF MARRIED, TO WHOM May Ross

Birth of Same (Date and Place) About 1860,  
Washington, D.C.

If Deceased, When February 7, 1937

When Married February 14, 1888, San Diego, Cali-  
fornia

CHILDREN (Married Names of Daughters)

Captain Ross Snyder (deceased)

# ANCESTORS OF DISTINCTION OR LOCAL INTEREST

(Please include names of local interest as "forty-niners," or any one connected with the affairs or development of the state or city, as officials, professional men, merchants, etc.)

Subject's wife, nee May Ross, was the daughter of William W. Ross, body guard and counsellor to Abraham Lincoln in the Civil War, and afterward mayor of Topeka, Kansas. Her uncle Edmund G. Ross was governor of New Mexico, and U.S. senator from Kansas.

Mrs. Snyder pioneered to Los Angeles about 1887; she was prominent in civic and social affairs over half a century.

## EDUCATION (Schools, Colleges, Degrees, Etc.)

Public schools, North Carolina; Bethany and Schylo Academy, and Yadkin College, North Carolina

CLUBS, LEARNED SOCIETIES, ETC. Mason; B.P.O.E.; Wilshire Country Club; Los Angeles Country Club; Jonathan Club; Lomita Gun Club; Knights of Pythias; Knights Templar

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION Protestant

POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS Democrat

RESIDENCE IN CALIFORNIA SINCE 1880

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# SKETCH

(Please make this as full as possible, giving business affiliations, positions of honor or trust with dates if possible.)

Meredith Pinxton Snyder was born October 22, 1858, near Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Owing to the early death of his parents and the impoverishment of the South following the Civil War, he was compelled to earn his livelihood while very young.

His early education consisted of desultory attendance at public schools until he had earned sufficient funds to finance attendance at the Bethany and Schylo Academy, and Yadkin College, both located in North Carolina.

In 1880 when he was twenty-two years of age Mr. Snyder removed to Los Angeles. During his first four years here he held a general clerkship in B.F. Coulter's store, and entered into political and civic activities of the times.

In 1884, preceding the city's real estate boom, he made his first investment, and for the next eight years was one of the pioneer realtors of the community, in the meantime becoming an acknowledged leader in Democratic party affairs.

Mr. Snyder began his long public service in March of 1891, when he was elected to the Police Commission, upon which he served to December 14, of that same year.

He was next elected to the City Council, from the 2nd Ward, December 12, 1894, and served a two year term in this capacity. In his councilmanic service he was chairman of the Finance Committee, and assumed leadership in the movement which resulted in a fifty percent reduction of the city's water rate, and which ultimately placed water distribution under municipal control.

It was at this time that Mr. Snyder became identified with the reform element in public affairs. His liberal or progressive policies were backed by both major political parties in the December elections and he was elected mayor, serving his first term in this office, 1897-1899.

His other three mayoralty terms were: 1901-1903; 1903-1905; and 1919-1921. The outstanding achievements associated with his four terms in office are the annexation and consolidation of the port towns of San Pedro



Snyder, Meredith F. Snyder

Wheel horse. His successful appeal so many times to the Republican electorate was largely due to his abstemious private life, his progressive business record, and political convictions which, generally on the side of the taxpayer, included municipal ownership of general utilities, and an aggressive reform platform.

Between intervals as mayor Mr. Snyder continued public crusades for civic reform, his political activities, and was noted as one of the modern business and financial developers of the community.

Apropos of his modernity Mr. Snyder, as ex-mayor and while president of a bank, bought one of the first automobiles seen in the city, a bright red roadster. While dashing down Broadway in it one day in reckless defiance of the twelve-miles-per-hour speed laws, he was pursued and overtaken by two traffic officers on bicycles, and promptly arrested. Fined five dollars for speeding, he paid it and it is said commended the policemen for brilliant execution of duty.

Mayor Snyder's only child, Captain Ross Snyder died in action in the World War, in the battle of Chateau Thierry. His body was brought home from France in 1923 and buried with full military honors, the funeral being held in Pershing Square. Ross Snyder Playground is named for him.

After this tragedy in their lives Mr. and Mrs. Snyder led a very quiet and retiring life.

Mr. Snyder died on the same date, two months after the death of his wife, in his home in the Jonathan Club. National and city official emblems were lowered to half-mast in Civic Center, while the Senate adjourned out of respect to his memory. He lay in state in City Hall, where eulogies were pronounced by friends and officials and the public paid its last respects.

# Biographical Division

## Los Angeles Historical Society

701 MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
LOS ANGELES

Meredith P. Snyder

(Name in full)

Mortgage Financing

(Occupation)

Biltmore Hotel

(Address)

Faber 0954

(Telephone Number)

K. D. Snyder

(Father's Name)

L. A. Wilshire<sup>Co. Club</sup> Jonathan  
and others

(Clubs)

Elizabeth Snyder

(Mother's Name)

All branches of the

Masonic Order

(Fraternal Orders)

Oct 22 - 1868 Amstern - Sulm MC Methodist

(Where born)

(Date)

(Church)

June 1880

(Came to Los Angeles—Date)

Yadkin College 1880

(School or College) (Year) (Degree)

May Ross Snyder

(Wife's Name)

(Date of marriage)

Feb 14 - 1888

Capt. Ross Snyder - Fell in France July 30, 1918

(Children)

(List here any public or honorary office held, or other data of interest)

Police Commissioner 4 years; Councilman 2 years;

Public Service Commissioner 4 years; Member of Consol-

idation Commission consolidating Los Angeles, San

Pedro and Wilmington; elected Mayor 4 times.

Police Commissioner 1901 to 1904

City Councilman 1904 to 1907

Elected Mayor Los Angeles for  
two years 1897 & 1899 re-elected  
1902

Public Service Commissioner  
1914 to 1918

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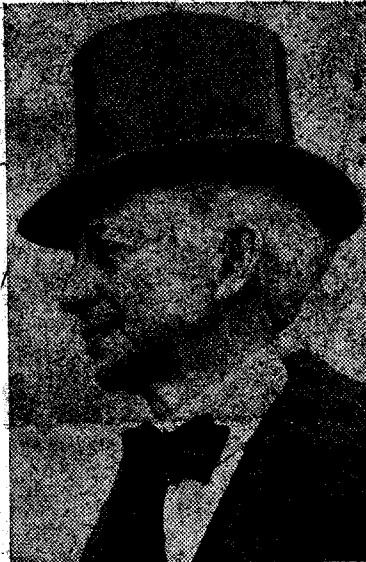
Elected Mayor of Los Angeles  
1919 served till June 1921



A lifetime of political battles and service to his city was closed by death today for Meredith P. Snyder, above, four times mayor of Los Angeles. He's shown with the reddish sideburns that gave him the nickname of "Pinky."



Snyder was 78 with many memories of success in politics, banking and finance when death called him. *N.Y. City*



Dignified yet friendly, Snyder won distinction as the "perfect American host" when he entertained the King and Queen of Belgium in 1919.

## Plan Tribute to Former Mayor 'Pinky' Snyder

"Pinky" Snyder is dead.

And today a great city mourned the passing of the man who was four times its mayor, and for half a century one of its first rank citizens.

Meredith P. Snyder, 78, affectionately known to thousands as "Pinky" because of the color of his famous "mutton chop" sideburns, passed away peacefully at the Jonathan Club, where he lived, yesterday afternoon. He had been stricken by a heart attack earlier in the day.

His death followed by not very many months the passing of his wife, Mrs. May Ross Snyder. Since her demise, the one time mayor had himself been failing.

The city hall will pay tribute to its former chief executive tomorrow when the body of Mr. Snyder will lie



✓  
MAYOR MEREDITH P. SNYDER

1896 - 1898

1900 - 1904

1919 - 1921

Mayor Snyder, a Democrat, was active in the initial movement to provide Los Angeles with a harbor by acquiring the shoestring strip connecting Los Angeles with San Diego and Wilmington and its consolidation in 1909. During his term of office, the Third Street tunnel was bored through Bunker Hill in 1901, and the water system was taken over by the City. Angels Flight started operation, the Automobile Club of Southern California was organized, the Los Angeles Examiner was founded and the first all-movie theater opened for business on Main Street.

6

and Wilmington into the municipality of Los Angeles, and the establishment of the municipally owned water system.

Both in and out of office Mayor Snyder campaigned for a municipally controlled water system, his political activities in its behalf beginning back in the '90's. As mayor he appointed the first Water and Power Commission which made the plans for the present Owens River project.

Mayor Snyder was himself appointed by Mayor Rose, July 1913, to the Water and Power Commission, then called the Public Service Commission, and served on the board to May 7, 1917.

Concurrently with these public offices and political activities Mayor Snyder conducted numerous prominent business enterprises. M.P. Snyder Shoe Company, which is still in business under another management, was established by him in 1892.

In 1904 he organized the California Savings Bank, of which he was president fourteen years. His other private interests were extensive and included the ownership, directorship or presidency of banking real estate, and investment enterprises in various parts of the Southland. Some of these were: president, Home Telephone Company, San Diego; owner Meredith Office Building; president and organizer, California Guaranty Corporation; vice-president and director Gardena Bank and Trust Company; Secretary and Treasurer, American Druggist Syndicate, San Francisco; and director, Lomita Land and Water Company.

Ex-Mayor Snyder's hobby was farming. He owns a large tract of ranch land in the San Joaquin Valley part of which he subdivided into small tracts, assisting in financing the purchasers to become permanently established, and 700 acres of which he kept for farming and improvement.

After retiring from the mayoralty at the expiration of his fourth term in 1921, he withdrew to a great extent from the civic, social, and fraternal life of the city. His energies were devoted to the administration of his business interests and to following the affairs of the Democratic party.

SKETCH:

Snyder, Meredith Pinxton ... 3

Governor Rolph appointed him to his last public office, 1931-1935, that of State Industrial Accident Commissioner.

Ex-Mayor Snyder died April 7, 1937, in Los Angeles.

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end



## SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES

### BOOKS:

Who's Who in America, 1936-37

Detwiler, Who's Who in California, 1928-29, p 228

Press Reference Library, 1912, p 451, picture

Press Reference Library, 1913, p 331, picture

Wolfe, Men of the State of California, p 375,  
picture

Hunt, California and Californians, Vol 1V, p 52  
Picture

Guinn, History of California, Los Angeles  
and Environs, Vol 111, p 921

McGroarty, Los Angeles From the Mountains to the  
Sea, vol 11, p 394

Workman, City That Grew, pen sketch

Newmark, Sixty Years in Southern California

Who's Who in Los Angeles, 1925-26, p 109, picture

Guinn, Historical and Biographical Record of  
Southern California, p 608

Louis M. Cole  
 Sam Behrendt  
 Dr. Dudley Fulton  
 Ed Tufts  
 Seth R. Brown  
 David Barry  
 W. A. Spalding  
 F. M. Douglas  
 T. E. Gibbon  
 Irving H. Hellman  
 Will Inness  
 James V. Baldwin  
 C. L. Myers  
 E. A. Featherstone  
 Albert Gude  
 I. J. Muma  
 Vincent Hannon  
 C. C. Flint  
 Barclay H. Brown  
 A. B. Hassel  
 Wm. H. Anderson  
 Walter Kays  
 Jos. H. Call  
 Geo. W. Dickinson  
 Ben F. Gray  
 Harry Grossman  
 Geo. A. Wright  
 J. D. Button  
 Chas. Groman  
 C. C. C. Tatum  
 A. B. Jamison  
 J. H. Laskbrooke  
 Chas. Dreyfus  
 J. Eisner  
 Earl B. Gilmore  
 W. Ross Campbell  
 J. A. Talbert  
 C. A. Parkinson  
 Guy W. Yonkin  
 David Evans  
 Chas. Groman  
 Thomas P. White  
 W. A. Johnson  
 H. W. Pettebone  
 Hugh W. Bryson  
 E. P. Bryan  
 Louis P. Tappeler  
 Wm. Garland  
 Chas. R. Gore  
 W. E. Craig  
 W. C. Musher  
 Mattison B. Jones  
 Mark Jones  
 A. A. Eckstrom  
 P. Halbriter  
 A. W. Ross  
 A. A. Allen  
 Dr. C. N. Hopkins  
 Max Isaacs  
 H. S. Cahn  
 Dr. O. P. Roller  
 E. A. Montgomery  
 Arthur Wright  
 John T. Gaffey  
 L. T. Bradford  
 I. M. Hollingsworth  
 Sam Barry  
 F. W. Sinclair  
 Frank Affender  
 Ben Goodrich  
 Charles S. Hall  
 Thomas B. Brown  
 James Oviatt  
 Frank R. Strong  
 Chas. M. Stamm  
 H. C. McGuire  
 Clarence W. Horn  
 C. A. Sumner  
 Benjamin Myer  
 John W. Mitchell  
 H. G. Haffer  
 Henry M. Stieglitz  
 C. E. Listenwaller  
 Leo Germain  
 Wallace White  
 Arthur Asher  
 E. W. Maxson  
 Robert Heffner  
 Jas. E. Rothgeb  
 Leo Bergman  
 T. R. Swann  
 Wm. Mead  
 David E. Fulwider  
 Byron Erkenbrecker  
 Frank Rooney  
 H. C. Collins  
 Gen. Frank C. Prescott  
 E. R. Werdin  
 Benjamin Lewis  
 Mose Lowenstein  
 Frank Price  
 Edwin H. Baker  
 Elmer Cole  
 Dr. David W. Edelman  
 Francis J. Heney  
 W. C. Shelton  
 R. H. Jeffries  
 Earl Mueller  
 Dr. Carey  
 John Bloeser  
 Ralph Cerf  
 Fred E. Walsh  
 Clem Glass  
 Herbert Cornish

F. W. BLANCHARD,  
 Campaign Manager

J. M. CLOSE,  
 Headquarters Manager



C. H. HANCE,  
 Treasurer

MARTHA NELSON McCAN  
 Chairman Women's Com.

# Meredith P. Snyder for Mayor

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS

542 SOUTH SPRING STREET

Phone Pico 786 and Pico 3000

OPEN LETTER FROM MEREDITH P. SNYDER

TO THE VOTERS OF LOS ANGELES.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the hurly burly and excitement of a political campaign much partisan feeling is developed. Friends of the candidates and enemies of the candidates endeavor to exploit the strength and attack the weakness of those whom they respectively advocate or oppose.

Many insinuations are made originally by those with ulterior motives, with the result that they are ultimately repeated in the best of faith as established facts by men of good intention, who ordinarily would not knowingly lend themselves to the spreading of slander. These statements traveling from mouth to mouth lose nothing of their character through over zealousness of friend or foe and oftentimes are used to befog the real issues of a campaign.

In many instances, those near to a candidate, with every appearance of the official authority of their principal, go farther than is warranted by good faith or good citizenship in support or attack, and many totally unfounded rumors, through cunningly contrived lack of opportunity for denial, grow into alarming proportions at the eleventh hour.

To my many friends I wish to say that I do not desire any mud slinging in this campaign on my behalf, notwithstanding the fact that I have been and am now being made the victim of mud slinging which is as difficult to trace as it is unjustified and insidious.

C. F. Waite  
 Ed Bautzer  
 R. B. Dickinson  
 A. M. Edelman  
 Charles F. Devereaux  
 Milton K. Young  
 Jos. S. Bushey  
 Chas. E. Bent  
 Maj. Frank E. Prescott  
 Pat Sheedy

Jos. Musgrove  
 George Hart  
 A. St. C. Perry  
 C. H. Hance  
 J. E. Fishburn  
 Marco H. Hellman  
 Chester W. Thompson  
 Jay Jacobs  
 E. Burton Cerutti  
 Roman Sepulveda

Mrs. Cort Deal Lewis  
 Mrs. Morris Albee  
 Mrs. W. T. Barnett  
 Mrs. E. Basthiem  
 Mrs. W. J. Bullis  
 Mrs. W. A. Chapman  
 Mrs. H. F. Campbell  
 Mrs. J. H. Dopkins  
 Mrs. B. A. Davis  
 Mrs. Thomas J. Douglass  
 Mrs. Adeline Durlin  
 Miss Mary Foy  
 Mrs. Estelle Gilcher  
 Mrs. G. W. Haigh  
 Mrs. E. C. Higgins  
 Mrs. West Hughes  
 Mrs. Robert Killifer  
 Mrs. H. H. Kerckhoff  
 Mrs. Henry Clay King  
 Mrs. Grantland Long  
 Mrs. Florence Lawrence  
 Mrs. Grace Martin  
 Dr. Dorothea Moore  
 Miss Helen Matheson  
 Mrs. Louis Schirm  
 Mrs. Rea Smith  
 Mrs. Mary Sanders  
 Mrs. J. Wells Smith  
 Mrs. Clinton Sterry  
 Mrs. Eva Howland  
 Mrs. W. C. Tyler  
 Mrs. Margaret Wall  
 Mrs. Marian Welch  
 Miss Mabel Willebrandt  
 Mrs. Sydney V. Pardee  
 Marion A. Jordan  
 Mrs. M. H. Marks  
 Mrs. M. Danziger  
 Mrs. J. W. Hellman  
 Mrs. Norman Sterry  
 Mrs. Frances Noel  
 Mrs. C. P. Thomas  
 Mrs. D. K. Beckon  
 Mrs. J. W. Mitchell  
 Mrs. Julia Mackie  
 Mrs. Ben F. Gray  
 Mrs. Martha Carson  
 Mrs. George L. Moxley  
 Mrs. Marion MacDonald  
 Mrs. Barclay Brown  
 Mrs. Rose Benjamin  
 Mrs. J. J. A. Van Kaathoven  
 Mrs. W. A. Spaulding  
 Mrs. Estelle Heartt-Dreyfus  
 Mrs. Graham F. Putman  
 Mrs. Andrew Francisco  
 Mrs. Janet Hinkley  
 Mrs. J. C. Urquhart  
 Mrs. Samuel Haskins  
 Mrs. C. Greenberg  
 Miss Grace Hecht  
 Mrs. H. W. Creveling  
 Mrs. L. A. Beebe  
 Mrs. Abbie Norton Jamison  
 Mrs. George Vach Wright  
 Mrs. Paul Dunnigan  
 Mrs. Frank Dick  
 Mrs. Jennie Elliott  
 Mrs. E. K. Foster  
 Mrs. Clara Shortridge Doltz  
 Mrs. Benjamin Goldman  
 Mrs. Hattie Hill  
 Mrs. Jessica Kingsland  
 Mrs. A. G. Matteson  
 Mrs. A. K. Prather  
 Mrs. Paul Robinson  
 Mrs. E. J. Stahn  
 Mrs. R. S. Whiteside  
 Miss Fannie Willis  
 Mrs. W. L. Willets  
 Dr. Rebecca Lee Dorsey  
 Miss A. A. Chevallier  
 Mrs. J. B. Curlin  
 Mrs. J. W. Curns  
 Mrs. A. M. Brain  
 Miss Katherine Baker  
 Mrs. Chas. Barrington  
 Mrs. A. J. Allen  
 Mrs. C. J. Colden  
 Mrs. L. E. Bolsta  
 Mrs. John Dodson  
 Mrs. Chas. Bateman  
 Miss Z. W. Craig  
 Mrs. L. Hansen  
 Mrs. J. Stanford Gwaltney  
 Mrs. W. B. Love  
 Mrs. A. C. Stone  
 Mrs. A. Cadien  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Gunter  
 Mrs. H. R. Boynton  
 Mrs. H. E. Covert  
 Mrs. Chas. Van Valkenberg  
 Mrs. J. W. Trueworthy  
 Mrs. Mary F. Dorlan  
 Miss Mary Workman  
 Mrs. Alice Cross  
 Mrs. J. B. Pound  
 Mrs. Caroline Bond  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis  
 Mrs. P. L. Randolph  
 Mrs. W. E. Mabee  
 Mrs. Marshall Anderson  
 Mrs. Harry Johnson  
 Mrs. George Bollinger

LIMITED SPACE WILL NOT PERMIT US TO PRINT THE NAMES OF THE MANY ADDITIONAL THOUSANDS OF SNYDER SUPPORTERS

I am opposed by some men whose good faith cannot be questioned and whose standing in the community is such that their opinion is entitled to much consideration.

I am supported by many men equally good, with whom it is an honor and a pleasure to be associated. When the smoke of battle has cleared away, I want to be in a position to avail myself of the best advice of all for the greater good of Los Angeles.

Where attack is made by innuendo, it is often very difficult to refute and ordinarily I think a candidate is justified in such cases in maintaining a dignified silence. There is an organized effort to spread certain propaganda in an endeavor to injure my candidacy, which deserves more direct treatment.

Those who are spreading it in good faith should be better informed. To those who are spreading it for ulterior motives, I wish to apply the "short and ugly word".

Adroit detractors, well knowing that many people in Los Angeles have been embittered by labor troubles, have industriously circulated the rumor that I have sold out to organized labor and that if I am elected Mayor, the city will be turned over to the labor unions and be placed in the category of such places as San Francisco.

In direct answer to this vicious and lying propaganda, I want to state that I have made no promises of any kind, direct or implied, to organized labor or its representatives. Neither have I made any promises, direct or implied, to the employers of labor or to their representatives. But I do hereby promise to the voters of Los Angeles a square deal to both employer and employee, without fear or favor, and with no thought of future political preferment for myself, having no ambition beyond that of being Mayor of Los Angeles.

That the workingmen of Los Angeles have endorsed me upon this platform is a source of pride to me and I will be their Mayor just as much, no more, and no less, than I will be the Mayor of any other interest.

Some of the largest employers of labor in Los Angeles, notable among whom I may mention Mr. Marco H. Hellman and Frank A. Garbutt, both well known Republicans, not because they stand alone but because they are both well known as standing firmly for their convictions, have carefully investigated my attitude toward employer and employee, and are thoroughly satisfied with it from the standpoint of men who in the past have had honest differences with organized labor and expect that the future will likewise bring its similar problems.

The next most vicious and lying propaganda circulated about me is that I am endeavoring, through the aid of Senator Phelan's money, to elect

myself Mayor of Los Angeles and thus build up a political machine for use in the next national campaign. Let me again apply the "short and ugly word" to all who are circulating this report through improper or vicious motives. To those who in good faith have listened to these inspired insinuations, I will give the truth, which is that in local politics, I now am and at all times will be non-partisan, because I am a law-abiding citizen and the charter of this City provides that all elections shall be non-partisan.

I have built, am building and can build no political machine, and I am supported by more Republicans than Democrats among my personal friends.

Next in importance in its political effect, though infinitely more harmful in other ways, is the vile insinuation that I stand for a so-called open town, with the plain inference that vice would thrive under my administration just as much as it would be suppressed under some other Mayor. These resorts have been circulated so industriously and have been so cunningly phrased that many fair-minded voters have been influenced thereby. To all such I will say that you have my promise to enforce the laws and may hold me personally accountable for this promise, with no fear that I will delegate this authority to the Chief of Police and wash my hands of all responsibility for any ignorance, laxity or inefficiency in this department.

Men and women of Los Angeles, and I appeal especially to the women because I feel that they are especially qualified to differentiate between fine phrases, at which I am no adept, and sincere purpose, which I am now avowing, I have this statement to make:

I have but one ambition in life, and that is to round out my career as the Mayor of the City in which I have lived the best part of my life, and by giving it the best that is in me in the service of its people, to leave it a record to which the City can point with pride. I have an experience that fits me for this work; I have no further political preferment to seek, and when this work is finished my life's work is done. You will find me opposed, and strenuously opposed, by some big business interests that feel that I cannot be selfishly used for their private gain. There are cleverly camouflaged raids now being organized upon the public treasury, and if you will carefully examine the ranks of my opposers who are the most zealously circulating the above and other calumnies, you will find carefully concealed behind the firing line influences at work which hope to profit, in the future as in the past, at the expense of the people. I am not now referring to those good men who from honest difference of opinion are opposing me in good faith, but to those sinister and lying schemers who cunningly put into the mouths of better men insinuations which they themselves do not have the courage to make publicly over their own signatures. Friends, upon the platform of a fair deal to all and sympathy and assistance to the weak and no special favors to the strong, I solicit your suffrage.

MEREDITH P. SNYDER.