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**300 CITY HALL**

**CITY OFFICIALS**

**NAME**      Martin, Virgil A.

**PUBLIC OFFICES HELD**

**(DATE)**

**CITY:**

City Council

1927-1931

**COUNTY:**

**STATE**

**FEDERAL:**

**CIVIC ACTIVITIES:**

Public welfare activities

Director, Rescue Mission on Main Street

**BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Executive, rubber manufacturing company  
Business man  
City official  
Mechanical engineer

**PORTRAIT:** 2 cuts from campaign hand-bills

**ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED IN ENVELOPE:**

**PORTRAITS APPEARING ELSEWHERE (DATES)**

Who's Who in Los Angeles County, 1927-28, p 163

## **ANECDOTES AND PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS:**

Virgil A. Martin who defeated R.S. Sparks for councilman when he was elected to that office, states that \$50,000,000 worth of improvement enterprises passed through ships during his commissionership.

Since retirement from active business, public welfare and aiding the needy engages Mr. Martin's attention. At sixty years of age he is jolly, wholesome personality with a sense of humor which seems to grow with the years.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**BOOKS:**

Who's Who in Los Angeles County, 1927-28, p 153

**NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS:**

**PERSONAL INTERVIEW:**

**INTERVIEWED BY:** Luella Sawyer

**DATE OF INTERVIEW** October 16, 1934

Rewritten by: Clare Wallace

February 15, 1937

# **VIRGIL A. MARTIN**

For 20 Years in Fifth District



Virgil A. Martin represents the fifth district in the City Council; he was born in Nebraska and when a year old his parents moved to Troy, New York, where he attended school, graduating from high school and Commercial College.



In 1908 Mr. Martin and his wife moved to Los Angeles where for several years he represented the rubber company of which he was superintendent in Boston. He was mechanical engineer for a large rubber company during the war, and looked after all of its government business south of San Francisco. After the war Mr. Martin was made district manager for Southern California and Arizona for the company, remaining as such until three years ago when he entered the manufacturing business with some associates, and in June, 1927, was elected to the City Council of Los Angeles.

Mr. Martin is a member of several clubs, organizations and the Masons.

**Fifth District****Virgil A. Martin**

Member of City Council

July 1, 1927 - June 30, 1931

Virgil A. Martin was born October 15, 1874, in Tecumsha, Nebraska, and was taken by his parents to Troy, New York, when he was a year old.

He received his education in Troy, attending grammar and high schools, and later commercial college there. Following this he engaged in the rubber manufacturing industry in Boston.

In 1906, Mr. Martin moved to Los Angeles as representative of the Boston Woven Hose and Rubber Company. Later, he became mechanical engineer, sales engineer, and district manager of B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company and was in charge of the company's Pacific Coast governmental business during World War I, including overseeing the balloon schools and shipyards.

Mr. Martin terminated his connection with this company in 1925.

In 1927, he was elected to the City Council from the 5th District, and served two terms, until 1931. Committees upon which he served include Harbor, Parks and Playgrounds, and Public Works. Other Councilmanic activities were the promotion of the opening and improvement of Third Street and Wilshire Boulevard and the extension of Figueroa Street.