

Sixth District**Lester R. Rice-Wray**

Member of City Council

July 1, 1927 - August 28, 1928

Lester R. Rice-Wray was born in Missouri. He was educated in public and private schools and was a licensed teacher when only sixteen years old. He was a professor of mathematics of the University of Denver, and an expert accountant.

He held many important positions with national firms, and at the outbreak of World War I was sent to Washington where he was appointed by the U.S. government to straighten out inefficiencies of the American Railway Express Company in the District of Columbia, the center of supply distribution.

He moved to Los Angeles in 1920 and engaged in the sale of real estate in the sixth district. One of his campaign platforms was cheap, reliable transportation, particularly to Venice, "the city's natural playground."

He was removed from office in a recall election generated by the protest of 18,000 property owners in his district against the construction of Section No. 6 of the Slauson-Avenue storm drain.

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Rice-Wray Will Run on 'Anti-Ruin' Plank

L. A. EXAM. 3-7-29 E

LESTER RICE-WRAY announced his candidacy yesterday for the City Council on an anti-cement-plant platform.

He desires to represent the Eleventh District, which includes Venice and adjacent territory, and is firmly convinced there should be no industrial invasion of the Santa Monica Mountains.

He is well known to thousands of voters who welcome his reentry into public life.

His statement follows:

It has been brought to my attention that rumors are being cir-

culated to the effect that I am a candidate for City Council from the Eleventh District, having pledged support to the Los Angeles Mountain Park Company and its cement crusher-quarry project.

"I am emphatically against such invasion by industry of any residential district.

"There should be no beating about the bush. This proposed invasion of our residential sections by the so-called 'cement trust' or by any other promoters of projects which obviously would ruin and despoil materially and psychologically the value of our home communities should command the attention of every candidate for public office. I want the voters of the district which I am pledged to protect and aid its progress, if elected, to know how I stand upon this important issue.

"Only by protection and progressive action can Venice be kept the amusement center of the world. Any cement crusher-quarry plan, with the eight-inch pipe-line transportation scheme will, if the first is permitted and the second works, cause pollution of the beaches with nothing could off-set or compensate.

"Setting aside the unfairness of the proposal to property owners in the immediate vicinity of the proposition, permission to invade one residential district with industry,

would make uncertain the safety of every residential district in the city.

"Venice and other beach communities, the beauty and popularity of which are of major importance, are apprehensive of such invasion and should be protected from it at any cost."