Councilmen's Bank Funds Investigated: New Clues Sought in Wilshire District Spot Zone Racket Los Angeles Times (1923-Current File); Dec 18, 1938; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times pg. 1

Councilmen's Bank Funds Investigated

New Clues Sought in Wilshire District Spot Zone Racket

Bank accounts and real estate holdings of two City Councilmen and a former member of the City Planning Commission were under investigation by detectives from Dist. Atty. Buron Fitts' office yesterday as further disclosures were scheduled in the socalled spot zoning racket.

Action to check the bank accounts and realty holdings of the city officials was taken yesterday after the District Attorney's office was given information that the spot zoning of residence lots for business purposes in the Wilshire district was "a bigger racket" than spot zoning of oil well drilling permits in the Wilmington district.

JURY ASKS DATA

It also was learned that the grand jury, apparently acting upon independent information, had requested the District Attortory source to support gate on

had requested the District Attorley's once to supply data on the activities of a former member of the City Planning Comnission. This former official was said to have been active in obtaining necessary fire permits from the Fire Commission weeks n advance of the passage of city ordinances permitting the drillng in the Wilmington field.

LAND TRANSFERRED

One deal concerning which the District Attorney's office is known to have evidence assertedly involves, the transfer of a valuable piece of real-estate for a spot zoning concession in the Wilshire district. This parcel was said to have been recorded in the files of the County Recorder at approximately, the time that the spot zoning was consummated.

spot zoning was consummated. Dist. Atty. Fitts said yesterday that other oil permits, the validity of which are now being questioned by Mayor Bowron, also will be investigated by his office.

TWO INDICTED

Already indicted in the Wilmington oil-field investigation are Councilman Howard W. Davis and his one-time business associate, Dwight A. Baker, real estate man. They are scheduled to be arraigned before Superior Judge Clarence Kincaid at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow. The indictment a g a in st them. returned last Thursday, charges bribery and bribery conspiracy.

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