

Matilija Rent Issue Referred For Opinion

11/10/48
A suggestion put forth by Zone One Manager Nell Stiver about county rental fees on Matilija Hot Springs abruptly was referred yesterday afternoon by flood control supervisors to the district attorney for his opinion.

Via letter, Stiver informed supervisors that Ray Roberson, who leased the county-owned resort early this year, was unable to pay the rent for November through January. The resort business season was ended by the Ojai fire and the polio epidemic, Stiver's letter said.

He declared that Roberson had invested \$13,000 in the resort at his own expense and had extended his capital. Stiver suggested that three months rent, amounting to about \$1,300, be canceled.

Quickly, the matter was referred to the district attorney after Lester Price and Russell Cook sternly declared "that would be a gift of public money . . . it can't be done."