

## **County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors**

## SUPERVISOR MAURICE KREMER



Term: 1864 - 1868
District: Not Applicable
Date of Birth: Jan. 18, 1824
Death: March 7, 1907

Maurice Kremer served as county supervisor for two terms. He was appointed to replace Philip Sichel, who resigned Aug. 18, 1864, and was elected in the November 1866 general election.

Kremer was born in Lorraine, Germany on Jan. 18, 1824. He grew up in his hometown, attended public schools and learned the family business. His father was a merchant. In 1844 at the age of 20, Kremer immigrated to the United States. For the next several years, he spent time in New Orleans, St. Louis and Sacramento learning and building his mercantile business.

In 1851 Kremer moved to Los Angeles and with a partner opened a merchant trading business under the name of Lazard & Kremer, specializing in dry goods, clothing, boots, shoes and groceries. Since there were no banks in the city at that time, the firm's safe served as a place of deposit for the goldminers and for valuable documents. Kremer was one of the best known of the early-day residents of Los Angeles and became involved in politics. From 1860 to 1864 he served as county treasurer, followed by his two terms as county supervisor. In 1868 he was elected to be county tax collector, and from 1869 to 1875 served as clerk of the Los Angeles City Council. Kremer also served on the City Board of Education from 1866 to 1875, and spearheaded the building of the first school house.

Credits included membership in the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and the Order of Bnai B'rith and Temple of Bnai B'rith.

Kremer died March 7, 1907, after a long illness and shortly after the death of his wife. At the time of his death he was a member of the insurance firm of Kremer, Campbell & Co. Kremer was 83, and was survived by his five children: Rachel, Emily, Eda, Agnes, Fred and Abraham.

Source: The Historical and Biographical Record of Los Angeles and Vicinity, Western States Jewish Historical Quarterly, Los Angeles Times, March 8, 1907.