

## Moses Warns Growing Pollution May Close Beaches in the Bronx

By CHARLES G. BENNETT

Park Commissioner Robert Moses has warned Mayor Wagner of growing pollution that might contaminate permanently some of the city's bathing areas. If the present trend

continues, he told the Mayor in a letter, "it is probable that within ten to fifteen years not only the waters along the East Bronx shore will be unfit for bathing, but that the city will be compelled to close Orchard Beach."

The Commissioner proposed a means of preserving for recreation purposes the East Bronx shore from Throgs Neck to Pelham Bay Park. He suggested replacing the existing and planned combined storm-sanitary sewers with separate storm and sanitary sewers "from the east border of Ferry Point Park to the city line."

Mr. Moses put the cost of the sewer change-over at \$36,000,000 and proposed that it be raised by city-wide levy.

Public Works Commissioner Frederick H. Zurmuhlen has joined Mr. Moses in urging the Mayor to approve the change-over.

"The reason for the urgency," Mr. Zurmuhlen wrote to the Mayor, "stems from the imminence of construction of the Throgs Neck Expressway. If this major artery is built without certain decisions relating to the future sewer system in the area, it may freeze the existing combined sewer system and render its correction in the future prohibitively expensive."

Both Mr. Moses and Mr. Zurmuhlen asked for a special executive session of the Board of Estimate soon.

"This is probably one of the most important matters relating to harbor pollution control to be considered since the establishment of the Greater City of New York," Mr. Zurmuhlen said.

Commissioner Moses told the Mayor that the Board of Estimate "should immediately by resolution declare that no more raw sewage will be dumped into the waters of the Hutchinson River, Eastchester Bay and Long Island Sound between Throgs Neck and the city line."

Mr. Moses named as points of storm water overflow: East 177th Street, Wier Creek and Waterbury Avenue. While there is no serious pollution at present, Mr. Moses said, as the East Bronx becomes more built up and more combined drains are constructed, there will be more points of overflow and more contamination.

A \$55,000 survey is now under way to determine ways to safeguard from pollution six new beaches planned by the Park Department—two on the upper East River and four on the north rim of Jamaica Bay