

'Fix Me,' Tag Says



Santa Cruz Fire Chief Jack Sinnott affixes a red "Fix Me" tag to an improper wiring practice common in homes and business establishments. Looking

on are L. Howard Stough, of 631 San Juan avenue, member of Senior Citizens Opportunities; Manfred Mitchell, chairman of the Central Coast Insur-

ance Underwriters association fire prevention committee; and Gerald McMahon, special fire agent. An agent, SCO member and an off-duty fireman comprised a typical fire safety inspection team. They inspected over 400 downtown and East Side business premises for potentially hazardous or deficient fire safety conditions. City fire officials will follow up on reports. Sinnott said wrapping "live" cords around tubing or wood is a hazardous practice. Also noted will be the adequacy of egress, suppression devices, and safety equipment.

38 Fire Inspection Teams Check Local Businesses

By Jack Rannells

"Everyone should be fire-minded," said Howard N. Swift, engineer of the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific.

"I don't mean this solely in terms of eliminating hazards," he said. "They should always be aware of an avenue to escape in the event of fire — particularly in two-story houses."

Swift was speaking this morning as 38 fire inspection teams were being assembled and dispatched to areas throughout the downtown and East Side business areas.

The groups, generally comprised of a special fire agent of the Central Coast Insurance Underwriters association, an off-duty fireman, and members of Senior Citizens Opportunities, scoured the business establishments, marking potentially hazardous situations with red "Fix Me" tags.

Swift was to be keynote speaker at the concluding luncheon at the Colonial Inn, attended by participants and city officials.

He said this morning his remarks would include words of caution to the general public.

"Too many fire injuries and deaths are caused by panic in the face of fire," Swift said. "If they had anticipated other routes of escape when their regular way is blocked, most would not have been touched."

Probably the greatest mistake made is that of opening doors into the fire, Swift said.

This gives the oxygen-hungry flames new breath and invites tragedy, he added.

"If the door is warm, don't open it. Go out a window," Swift advised.

He cited the "great strides" made by city officials in clearing out the potentially hazardous old frame buildings for the San Lo-

renzo Park project. "The area was a definite hazard to the downtown area," he observed.

He said other reforms by the city in the past 15 years have seen Santa Cruz march from class 7 to class 3 among 10 ratings by insurers.

There is a real dollar significance, Swift said. "Class 3 is about as low as fire rates can get," he added.

Fire Prevention Week is proclaimed nationally each year on the week in which October 9 falls. This is the date of the historic Chicago fire.

Manfred Mitchell, chairman of the fire prevention committee of the Central Coast association, was in charge of the inspection this morning. It was co-sponsored by the Insurance Agents association of Santa Cruz and the local fire authorities, with A. Gardner Finn event chairman.

A compiled town inspection report was to be presented at the conclusion of the luncheon meeting.

Burglars Caught Ransacking Home

Two men were arrested last night by Santa Cruz city police after being alerted by a couple who returned to find their house entered, and burglars still ransacking the place by the light of matches.

Lee Marlin Hazard, 21, who gave his address as 170 West Cliff drive and Robert Arthur Robillard, 23, address undetermined, were arrested after po-

Ike Again Calls For Settlement Of Two Strikes

Palm Springs (AP). — President Eisenhower called today for swift settlement of both the 83-day old steel strike and the five-day east and gulf coast dock strikes.

"The President believes these two strikes are detrimental to the United States and the American people, and he believes the American people want both of them settled and settled fast," said White House press secretary James C. Hagerty.

At Eisenhower's vacation headquarters, Hagerty declined comment on reports that the Chief Executive would invoke the Taft-Hartley Law in the dock strike before the day's end. But the Press Secretary did volunteer that "the matter of the strike is now before the President."

Such matters customarily not get President attention unless use of such statutes as the Taft-Hartley Law is under serious consideration.

Eisenhower noted — through Hagerty — that the policy committee of the Steel Workers Union had just rejected new settlement proposals made by management representatives.

"The President," said Hagerty, "wants me to express his keen disappointment that there has been no meeting of minds to date in settling this steel strike through collective bargaining."

JAMMING STOPPED

Accident Victims