

# Military Services Company Will Set Up Offices Here, Hire 85-100 Santa Cruzans

A new light industry will set up offices here February 25. Carrying a monthly payroll of approximately \$30,000, the company will employ between 85 and 100 local people, Ralph Ring, secretary-manager of the chamber of commerce, said today.

Military Services company, a subsidiary of Elton B. Stephens and associates of Birmingham, Ala., will construct a factory valued at \$250,000 on the Keith Shaffer industrial tract at the corner of 45th avenue and Capitola road, just west of the Capitola city limits.

Contractor Kermit McGranahan is expected to be hired to construct the building, although the building contract is still being negotiated.

The company has been established in San Francisco since 1952, and has been located on the west coast for the last 11 years.

The local plant will manufacture steel and wood institutional furniture, used in company recreation rooms in the majority of U. S. army and air force bases throughout the world. Other products include magazine racks and magazine binders — used by most of the major American airlines in addition to army recreational rooms. In addition the new plant will house printing presses for personalized stationery of armed service personnel, and a manufacturing unit for insignia cigaret lighters and novelties sold to servicemen.

The company has purchased a five-acre plot for \$17,500, and has taken an option on an additional five acres for purposes of expansion.

R. E. Bailey, San Francisco office manager, said yesterday at groundbreaking ceremonies, "I will move down here to leased offices at 129 Walnut avenue (site of the former telephone business office) February 25. Santa Cruz will be our western headquarters."

The company serves all of the western states, Alaska and the Far East.

Approximately 28 families will move to the area from San Francisco, "almost immediately," said Bailey.

At present the company's operation is spread widely throughout the bay area. The head office is in San Francisco, the printing plant in San Rafael, and the company's furniture manufacturing plants are dotted about the peninsula, Bailey said.

The installation here will have a floor space of 32,000 square feet, including 6000 square feet of office space, said Bailey.

The building is expected to be completed by the end of May, likely Contractor McGranahan said this morning.

Ring said "The chamber and the county industrial committee

have been working to try and get Military Service here for approximately two months."

Recently the industrial committee sent Ring to the Birmingham, Ala. to "clinch the deal," said the chamber representative.

Ring said today, "This is the type of industry which fits into our community. Although there will be some light manufacturing, it is of the nature which will not create any unsatisfactory conditions."

"The nature of the business requires them to carry a huge inventory and from the standpoint of taxes, it will be of great benefit to the county."

"It is the perfect type of industry. None of its products are sold locally, so there will be no competition with local merchants, and many outside dollars will be brought into the community."

In a message to the people of Santa Cruz, A. L. Lee, president of the Military Service company speaking from Alabama, said, "We decided to select Santa Cruz for our west coast location after surveying all of northern California. My only regret is that as president of one of our corporations it will be necessary for me to remain in Birmingham, but I assure you I will look forward to several visits a year in your beautiful county."

## Monterey Voters Approve Special Tax For MPC

Voters in the Monterey union high school district approved a special tax for Monterey Peninsula college by a nearly 2 to 1 margin yesterday.

About 3500 of the district's 15,900 citizens turned out to the polls to register approval of the 20-cent special tax by a vote of 2250 yes to 1235 no.

The special tax will be used to construct engineering science facilities, a library and additional classrooms for the rapidly growing junior college which is in and governed by the Monterey union high school district.

More than 100 students from Santa Cruz attend MPC.

## Shaw Movie May Be Produced In New England Area

Glum news faced Santa Cruz' would-be movie extras this morning, when Ralph Ring, secretary-manager of the chamber of commerce, announced that the Hecht-Lancaster production of George Bernard Shaw's "The Devil's Disciple" may "be made in New England after all."

According to Ring, the movie company "has indicated that casting difficulties may hold up production until the summer. At that time the New England climate will be such that the company would be able to film in the east."

The company had been considering a movie location on the Locatelli property adjacent to the site belonging to the Lockheed corporation which recently purchased a tract for the construction of a guided missile plant.

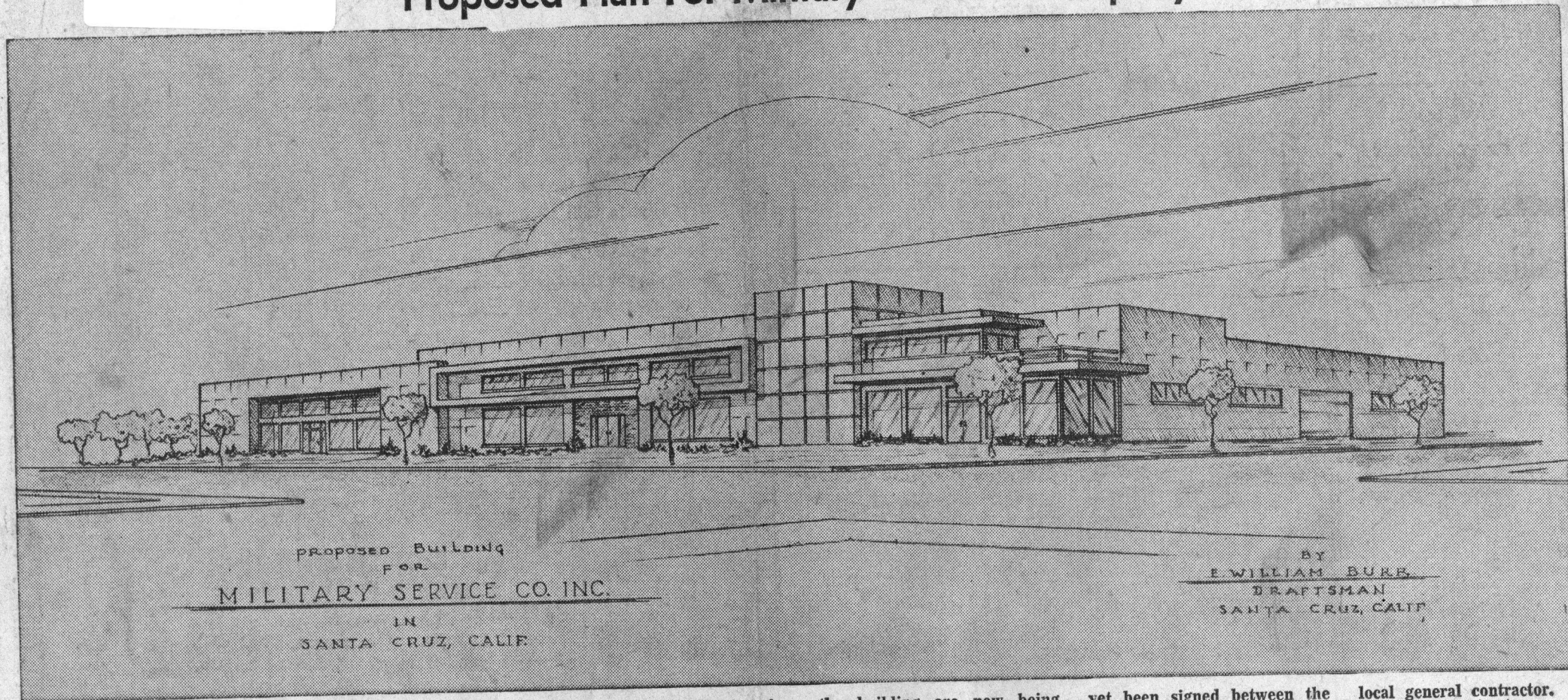
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## Proposed Plan For Military Services Company



Above is the sketch proposed for the Military Service com-

pany plant to be built on the Shaffer property near the Capi-

tola city limits. Final plans for

the building are now being drawn although no contract has

yet been signed between the firm and K. J. McGranahan,

local general contractor.

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