

# Sentinel

More Than 100 Years

MAY 7, 1959



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Sunday and Daily  
Excepting Saturday

## Faces Rew

### 16½ Per Cent Increase Asked In Santa Cruz Library Budget

A 16½ per cent boost in the city-county library budget and an even sharper tax hike for property owners was recommended for approval this morning.

In passing on the \$166,710 budget "which was squeezed as tight as it would go," library trustees sent it forward to the city council and board of supervisors for final action.

As the first budget to come before a public meeting this year, some observers thought it might prove a harbinger of city, county and school district fiscal problems to come.

Biggest single item to increase under library trustees' recommendations was salaries, up \$15,484 from last year's \$96,771.

The item was perhaps proportionately larger than the average to be expected as more budget totals are presented by boards, trustees and councilmen; but it is symptomatic of the major wage increases to which city, county and schools officials alike have committed themselves.

The recommendations would carry the library's city tax rate from 13 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to about 18 to 19 cents if the budget is passed in its same general form by the city council.

An additional tax increase will be felt from county levies if the board of supervisors accepts the recommendations — its 56 per cent share of the budget. The county share of costs is determined by the proportion of books circulated on library cards held by persons living outside the city limits.

The city tax increase is misleading since last year's rate would have been about 15½ cents per \$100 if councilmen had not tapped a reserve fund for about \$12,000, according to City and County Librarian Mrs. Geraldine Work.

In presenting the budget, Mrs. Work said all costs have risen, but salaries are geared to correct the inequities of 10 years.

Professional librarians have been recommended for raises up to about 15 per cent by the city civil service commission.

The recation of liaison officers to the board of trustee also may prove a harbinger of the debate to come in council chamber and board room.

Supervisor Vincent Locatelli flatly opposed the salaries and the recommendations of Consultant Louis J. Kroeger and Associates which set the base for civil service recommendations.

Councilman Paul Forgey, who predicted a tax decrease in the recent city council campaign, said the increases are subject to the city's ability to pay.

Faced with major increases to their budgets again this year, many jurisdictions may turn to salaries to shave some costs.

Assistant City Manager William Buckley told the group this morning "Frankly I believe the clerical series (at city hall) will be cut from a 9.8 to 4.9 per cent salary increases" in an attempt to bring city income in line with expenses.

### 1000 Youths Participate In Scout-O-Rama

Scouting skills will be on display when the two-day pageant of the annual Scout-O-Rama opens tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Harvey West stadium.

Approximately 1000 youngsters who compose the ranks of the Boy Scouts of America in the northern section of the county will present a record number of demonstrations. Tomorrow displays are shown until 9:30 p.m.

One of the most colorful spectacles of the pageant will be the opening ceremony by the Order of the Arrow, Boy Scout campers lodge, service club and honor society at 8:30 o'clock.

Saturday the pageant runs from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m., Len Gerkenmeyer, publicity chairman, reported. The final show will be given at 8:30 p.m.

Judo exhibitions are scheduled for 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, he said.

Thirty-two Cub Pack, Scout and Explorer units have prepared a variety of demonstrations to show the pageant theme, "Preparing for Tomorrow."

### STEEL UNION ASKS PROBE OF INDUSTRY

New York (AP). — The Steelworkers union today charged the steel industry with violating the antitrust laws and labor relations laws and asked the government to investigate.

### U.S. GRAND JURY STUDIES HUGE EMBEZZLEMENT

Long Beach (AP). — A U. S. grand jury investigation is under way into a bank embezzlement which authorities say may reach \$3,700,000.

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