

Temperature for 24-hour period ending at 8 a. m. today — Maximum 49, minimum 40.

Monterey Bay Area — Partly cloudy through tomorrow; little change in temperature; southerly winds 12-20 m.p.h.

100th Year—No. 308



SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1955



5c

Sunday and Daily Excepting Saturday

EIGHTEEN PAGES

# SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL-NEWS

Serving Santa Cruz County Since 1856

Guaranteed Paid Circulation  
of The Sentinel-News yesterday was

12,615

MISSED PAPER? If you phone GA 3-4242 before 6:30 p. m. a special messenger will deliver Sentinel-News to you if you live within city limits.

## City Starts Work On Redevelopment

### Federal Rehabilitation Officials Visit Santa Cruz



City Manager Robert Klein, left, reaches past Mayor Tom Polk Williams Sr. to shake hands with M. Justin Herman, regional housing and home finance administration director who headed a team of federal rehabilitation officials who visited here yesterday. Members of the group viewed damage,

explained the assistance they can offer and promised to give Santa Cruz cases priority handling. Santa Cruz was the first disaster area visited by the team, indicating the excellent job local officials and state and national legislators have been performing in reaching for all possible assistance.

### Soquel Group Spurns Bridge, Names Ken Izant As Spokesman

Soquel

### US Hits Back At Red Slap

Key West, Fla. (P.)—The White House, hitting back at Soviet criticism of President Eisenhower, said today the United States will continue to seek peaceful liberation of captive European peoples "until success is achieved."

The reiteration of the American goal was set forth in a statement by Press Secretary James C. Haggerty after it had been approved by Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles.

The statement was in reply to criticism yesterday by Nikita S. Khrushchev, Russia's Communist party boss, accusing Eisenhower and Dulles of "crude interference" in Eastern European affairs through Christmas broadcasts to those areas.

Khrushchev also accused the president of having violated the spirit of the Summit meeting held at Geneva last July.

In his statement, Haggerty in effect denied that.

"The peaceful liberation of the captive peoples," Haggerty said, "has been, is, and—until success is achieved—will continue to be a major goal of United States foreign policy."

Commenting on Khrushchev's statement that the Christmas messages were not "in the spirit of Geneva," the Haggerty statement said:

"It was made abundantly clear at Geneva to the Soviet rulers that the 'spirit of Geneva' could not and did not involve any relaxing of the peaceful purpose of the United States to achieve liberty and peace for the oppressed peoples of the world."

"In the opening statement at Geneva, President Eisenhower said:

"There is the problem of respecting the rights of peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; and of restoring sovereign rights and

### Board Will Vote Today On Resolution

The board of supervisors will meet at 4 p.m. today to vote on a resolution that would declare the Soquel bridge a peril to Soquel and to the health of its residents.

At a meeting this morning it appeared that all members would vote in favor of the resolution which needs a unanimous vote for passage.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Herbert Lindsley drew up the resolution during the day under emergency action and the government code.

The resolution will give the board power to remove the bridge following estimates and bids for the contract. Work would be done on a cost-plus basis under the code.

Kenneth Izant, elected spokesman for Soquel residents last night during a mass meeting, told board members the citizens of Soquel were grateful to the board for acting on the bridge removal.

He said that citizens were ready to accept the fact that a replacement bridge might take a year or more to finance and construct.

Col. Donald D. Gates, civil defense director, said this morning the bridge removal would be held up until an estimate is made next week by a federal civil defense representative.

The estimate is necessary, Col. Gates said, because an estimate is needed on what the cost would be to restore the bridge to its original state. This amount could possibly be applied to the reconstruction cost or the demolition cost.

In other activity, Purchasing Agent Ed Christensen was authorized to sign a contract with Poundmaster W. L. Garlick which calls for \$700 per month.

Garlick will pay his assistant from this amount. He asked for more money and a helper to cope with increasing canine problems.

Howe

### Council Approves Creating Agency To Work With US

The city council today took action to turn Santa Cruz' flood disaster into a potential boon by authorizing the creation of a city redevelopment agency to work with the federal urban renewal administration on plans to convert part of the flooded area into a downtown park.

Meeting in special session, the lawmakers passed a resolution authorizing Mayor Tom Polk Williams Sr. to appoint a five-member board to recommend redevelopment projects that would be planned with federal money.

City Manager Robert Klein suggested three possible projects which URA Representative Earl Newkirk said appeared to be definite redevelopment possibilities:

1—Creation of a park in the severely damaged area between Water street and Soquel avenue and bounded on the east and west by Garfield and a line behind the Front street business row.

This park would tie in as an improvement to a flood-blighted area and as part of the army-proposed flood control and river beautification plan, in which it is currently included on a tentative basis.

2—Construction of a new bridge near the mouth of the San Lorenzo river and additional parking facilities in the flood-hit beach area.

3—Redevelopment at a later date of the flood-ravaged sector south of Josephine street and east of River street.

Newkirk was dispatched here from San Francisco this morning by Richard Ives, regional head of the URA, who was one of the team of officials here yesterday to offer and outline federal aid.

Newkirk told the council that URA will advance all necessary planning funds to design proposed redevelopment projects.

"There is no expense to the city through the planning stage," Newkirk said. If and when the city is ready to proceed with construction the planning money must be repaid to the federal government.

erty owners affected can be assured they will get "a fair price" for their holdings, he declared.

In other emergency actions, the council:

1—Authorized the army engineers to proceed with debris clearance in the river channel between the pumping plant and the Soquel avenue bridge.

2—Declared the engineers and their contractors have the right to cross private property to achieve their goals.

3—Set up a special budget account for the purpose of keeping a strict record of emergency expenditures for which the city expects reimbursement from the federal government.

As the council met, the big mop-up of flooded areas continued under lowering skies that dropped occasional showers on the scene of devastation where eight perished and nine are missing and presumed dead.

Restoration work continued apace in other flood-stricken California communities.

At Yuba City, work crews filled in a levee gap that accounted for 19 deaths during the flood.

Already the rebuilt levee was holding back Feather River waters from the stricken city, where 280 homes were destroyed and 1200 others had major structural damage.

The state death toll reached 47, a jump of 12 since Wednesday morning when water receded enough that rescue workers were able to start.



W. L. Garlick which  
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city through the planning stage,"  
Newkirk said. If and when the  
city is ready to proceed with con-  
struction the planning money  
must be repaid to the federal  
government.

However, if the council  
over the plans and decides to  
junk them "there is no obliga-  
tion whatsoever," Newkirk said.  
In that case the government ab-  
sorbs the cost of the discarded  
planning.

M. Justin Herman, regional ad-  
ministrator of the federal hous-  
ing and home finance adminis-  
tration, had said yesterday the  
city could make a pitch for re-  
development along any lines it  
sought — residential replace-  
ment or creation of parks or other  
public facilities. All federal  
rehabilitation agencies here —  
with the exception of the small  
business administration — are  
working under Herman's aegis.

Newkirk outlined the steps to  
be taken to secure a redevelop-  
ment plan:

1.—City council authorizes the  
major to appoint a five-man re-  
development agency comprised of  
local citizens. The council has  
done that.

2.—Redevelopment agency, on  
authorization of the city council,  
requests federal planning funds.  
The URA is here to see that the  
application has an optimum  
chance of approval, Newkirk  
said.

3.—When funds arrive, the  
redevelopment agency appoints  
a planning group to study the  
areas and draw up actual de-  
signs. Klein and Mayor Tom  
Polk Williams Sr. indicated  
that if this stage is reached the  
contract might go to Harold F.  
Wise associates, consultant firm  
which has done planning work  
for the city in the past.

4.—Finished plans are present-  
ed to the agency, which in turn  
presents them for council ap-  
proval.

5.—Council decides whether to  
go ahead with actual redevelop-  
ment or to junk the plans. If  
they are discarded, there is no  
cost to local government. If the  
go-ahead is given, the city re-  
pays the federal planning money.

6.—Federal government stands  
two-thirds of redevelopment con-  
struction; city pays one-third.

Newkirk emphasized that the  
council retains complete con-  
trol over the planning and pro-  
ject at all phases of progress.  
Public hearings must be held  
before construction begins.

It was clear throughout the  
session that the council considers  
the proposed park the project of  
primary importance with the re-  
maining two suggestions second-  
ary.

"We can't lose," was the atti-  
tude of City Manager Robert  
Klein. Another endorsement  
came from Chamber of Commerce  
President Harry Lucas, who said:  
"The city should rightfully take  
advantage of this federal aid. We  
should go ahead with any redevelop-  
ment we can undertake."

Klein also pointed out that the  
proposed redevelopment would  
remove a great number of resi-  
dential structures from the San  
Lorenzo river's flood path.

Newkirk observed that owners  
of property within the flood-  
blighted sectors proposed for re-  
development should be advised to  
exercise "caution" in rebuilding.  
Future private improvements  
would be swallowed up by the  
program if it goes into effect, he  
said.

If the plan materializes, prop-

homes were destroyed and  
200 others had major structural  
damage.

The state death toll reached 47,  
a jump of 12 since Wednesday  
morning when water receded  
enough that rescue workers were  
able to start hunting victims.

Northern California

lars.  
Cleaning out the mud remained  
an individual job, but governmen-  
tal and private agencies began  
providing large scale aid.

The Red Cross said 4600 per-  
sons still were being cared for at  
44 emergency shelters. At one  
time the homeless were estimated  
at 50,000.

SBA Representative Mason  
Hamm and Frederick Savage  
opened their office on the sec-  
ond floor of the County bank  
building at 9 a.m. today and ad-  
vised businessmen they were  
taking applications for 3 per cent  
disaster loans.

The chamber of commerce dis-  
closed it had issued 220 applica-  
tions for business relief. Of these,  
104 had been returned and show-  
ed the businessmen responding to  
date said they need one and one-  
half million dollars to restore  
their establishments to pre-flood  
levels.

These applications will be re-  
ferred to the SBA office.

State Civil Defense Director  
Stanley Pierson—back here yes-  
terday on Governor Goodwin J.  
Knight's personal order to see  
that the aid program gets into  
gear smoothly—said the gover-  
nor had requested the entire one  
million dollar initial installment  
of federal civil defense adminis-  
tration funds for debris removal  
and temporary repairs.

Pierson accompanied the fed-  
eral aid team under Herman on  
their tour and breakdown of the  
aid avenues they have available  
to Santa Cruzans yesterday.

Mayor Tom Polk Williams Sr.  
announced at press time that  
citizens he would like to have  
on the redevelopment agency  
are being contacted with a re-  
quest to serve.

When the board has been se-  
lected its members will be an-  
nounced, Williams said. He hopes  
to get a "cross-section" of local  
men qualified by occupation to  
understand the problems involv-  
ed, Williams said.

American Red Cross President  
Ellsworth Bunker and two top  
aides paid a flying visit here yes-  
terday by helicopter and prom-  
ise every Red Cross assistance avail-  
able.

The Red Cross will work close-  
ly with the SBA men here, Bun-  
ker said.

With restrictions on water re-  
laxed yesterday, consumption  
jumped as the city clean-up job  
gathered momentum. The intake  
at the Bay street reservoir was  
still ahead of the output, how-  
ever.

Water Superintendent Weston  
Webber said slightly over four  
million gallons were received  
from coastal sources in the 24  
hour period ending at 8 a.m. Con-  
sumption for that period was  
three and three-quarter million  
gallons.

Cleaning and drying of equi-  
ment at the river pumping plant  
"is going along very nicely" and  
will be "a continuing process for  
some weeks to come," Webber  
said.

His men are still unable to  
get at the ruptured pipeline  
leading from the wells on the  
bank opposite the plant be-  
cause of the river depth but  
will try to effect repairs.

(Continued on Page 16)