

New City Council Takes Office

4-22-53

PATRICK J. FREEMAN ASSISTANT MAYOR; NEW COUNCIL SEATED

Clifford L. Dysle (pronounced Dees-lee), 57-year-old East Side merchant and a city council member since 1951, was named mayor of Santa Cruz by unanimous vote of the city council last night.

He succeeds Mayor Jack L. Chiorini, who left the council at the same time after five years of continuous service.

Patrick J. Freeman, pharmacist and former coroner, was named assistant mayor, succeeding Dysle who had held the position during the past year.

The elections were held after the new council was seated following canvass of the vote of last week's municipal elections. New Councilmen Tom Polk Williams Sr. and Robert E. Burton, and re-elected Councilman George N. Penniman were certified and seated. Williams and Burton replace former Mayor Jack L. Chiorini and Councilman Charles M. Brunjes. The latter did not seek re-election.

Councilman Sam C. McNeely placed Dysle's name in nomination before the council. After Councilman Williams seconded the nomination, Councilman Burton nominated Williams in view of the high vote received by Williams last week. Williams asked that his name be withdrawn as he felt too new on the council to assume the duties of the chair, and Burton complied. The ensuing roll call was unanimous in favor of Dysle.

Freeman's election to be assistant mayor followed.

The meeting opened at the council chambers with the old council seated to canvass the vote of last week's elections. City Clerk A. J. Miller reported that of 92 absentee ballots taken out, 85 had been returned, and that five had been rejected for failure of the voter to sign the required declaration on the envelope.

The remaining 80 ballots were counted in open council, with the following results: Williams 55, Burton 53, Penniman 51, Chiorini 32, and Fry 31, plus one write-in vote for Charles Brunjes.

Results of the absentee vote on the two propositions were as follows: For the garbage ordinance, Yes 39, No 38. For the ordinance regarding sale of a parcel of land owned by the city: Yes 52, No 19.

The absentee votes left the unofficial result of last week's elections unchanged. Total official results as announced last night were as follows:

Total vote including absentees: 6118. Williams 4120, Penniman 3645, Burton 3274, Chiorini 2806, Fry 2432. Brunjes received 157 write-in votes, and there were eight scattered write-ins.

Total vote on the two propositions: Garbage Yes 3035, No 2838. Land Sale: Yes 3074, No 2301. The garbage ordinance carried. The land sale ordinance failed for lack of the required two-thirds majority.

Prior to seating the newly elected members of the council, Charles M. Brunjes delivered a brief address to express his appreciation of what he termed "a six year course in applied citizenship," referring to his five years on the council and one year on the board of freeholders which wrote the current council-manager charter.

He spoke of the dreams that were realized during the past five years, citing accomplishments such as the charter itself, codification of city ordinances, construction of the municipal sewer treatment plant, the cross-town water main, the "remarkable re-organization of the fire department, and the acquisition of modern rolling stock."

Particularly, he dwelled upon the team work and co-operation of the council, the two city managers, and the employees of the city. He ended by wishing success to the new council, and particularly to the new members, Williams and Burton.

Mayor Jack L. Chiorini, in his farewell address, thanked the

city employees, the department heads, the city manager and councilmen as well as the public and pointed out the experience gained from being a part of government. "We have been paid by the richness of the experience", he said, and I am confident that Santa Cruz, after having five years of city government will have and years of more to come, and that the city government will be the best interest of the citizens of Santa Cruz.

Chiorini said the honor of having the highest honor confer upon one and referring to the co-operation of the city, "Imagine seven years, and still call them friends!"

Councilman George N. Penniman thanked Chiorini for his leadership and improvement and pledged the council's efforts to continue.



(Top) This is the group which will be responsible for guiding Santa Cruz' municipal government for the next two years. Grouped around newly-named Mayor Cliff Dysle (seated left) and Assistant Mayor Patrick J. Freeman are (left to right, stand-

ing) Councilmen George N. Penniman, Tom Polk Williams Sr., Sam C. McNeely, Robert E. Burton, and William Davenport. Penniman, Williams, and Burton were elected last week for four-year terms. The other four are incumbents.

(Bottom) Jack L. Chiorini

(left) who served on the city council for the past five years and as mayor for the past two, takes with him the engraved gavel of office presented to him by his successor, Mayor Cliff Dysle, who henceforth will carry the burden of the office vacated by Chiorini.