

City Manager Reports On Government Activities In Santa Cruz

Completed Work, Significant Operations Of '53-54 Shown

Editor's Note: The Annual report of City Manager Robert N. Klein on the administrative activities of the government of the City of Santa Cruz during the 1953-54 fiscal year, in accordance with the city charter, is printed here to show the completed work and significant operations of the last year. The report follows:

Public Works

Planning The Planning Department has just completed its first year. Acting as liaison between the Planning Commission and the administrative departments, the Planning Director has developed and published a complete subdivision manual which should provide a long term basis for residential developments. The Planning Director has also worked closely with the Council-appointed Off-street Parking Committee and a similar committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce.

A final report providing an off-street parking proposal and master street and highway plan should be available to the Council, Planning Commission, and the two committees named above about August first.

Engineering. The Engineering Department prepared plans and specifications for the new Santa Cruz Fire Department Station No. 3, located on Younglove Avenue between Mission and Seaside Streets. The department is supervising the construction of the building now being erected; the cost of the building is \$29,652. The department also assisted Mr. Fred D. Bowlus, Consulting Engineer, in making preliminary investigations and determinations on the new ocean outfall sewer line. Final plans and specifications were prepared by Mr. Bowlus, and this \$206,000 project is now being constructed under the supervision of the department. Engineering plans and specifications have been prepared for numerous other small public projects and many private requests have been handled pertaining to base grades, elevations and other pertinent information required in connection with private improvements within the public right-of-way.

Wharf. Many of you have watched the replanking of both sides and the far end of the municipal wharf, followed by a protective armor coating application over the new deck. Wharf restrooms have also been remodeled. We hope this year will see the end to the mid-wharf traffic bottleneck where the Paladini building has been torn down.

Schedules, plans are being completed for (1) construction of connection between Beach Street and West Cliff Drive and extension of parking lot adjacent to our newly acquired Cowell Beach; (2) improvement of Chestnut Street in cooperation with Southern Pacific Railroad; (3) widening and improvement of lower Front Street; (4) widening of one block of Highland Avenue adjoining High Street; (5) new connection of Mission with Chestnut Street to provide connection with Freeway intersection.

The Freeway agreements for Route 56 Business District Bypass will provide the City with many additional improvements, including a new bridge across the San Lorenzo River approximately between Cottonwood and Coral Streets.

Sewer. Some of the facilities of the sewage treatment plant have been overhauled. Plans are being prepared by the City Electrician for a \$9000 emergency power installation which will provide protection in the event of commercial power failure, and this equipment should eventually pay for itself (ten years) by using sewer gas now wasted.

We have already mentioned the new outfall which is under construction and which will be completed with the funds provided in voted bonds and sewer rental charges.

This year money has been budgeted to obtain an Engineering study of our sewage transmission system as recommended by the State and County Health Department.

Storm Drains. New Freeway plans may still change the projected Josephine Street storm drain which has been delayed awaiting final Freeway design work. A new approach to the storm water control in the Josephine Street-River Street area is being studied by Division of Highways Flood Control Engineers and our own Engineering Department. The industrial storm drain near the Wrigley Plant was completed this past year.

Garage and Storage Facilities. Garage personnel built a new servicing pit in the main repair room. Further remodeling of the Garage-Corporation Yard facilities will take place when we finally complete the new outside storage yard improvement at River and Golf Club Road. This fencing and paving installation has taken considerable time because of other more important work continually interrupting the routine of completing the Yard improvements. This yard will increase the City bulk purchase program and enable us to purchase and properly store all types of construction material on a better price basis.

more efficient. We are now providing one of the lowest cost rear-yard garbage and curb trash-pick-up services in the state.

This year we will be experimenting with a limited "cut and cover" operation at the dumpsite, which is complicated by the excessive amount of rock in most areas available for this use.

Park and Recreation. A completed survey by the State Recreation Commission staff has been reported and studied by the City Park and Recreation Commission. One of the notable steps recommended and approved by Council action is the addition of a Recreation Supervisor for girls' and women's activities.

Many additions and improvements have been made during the year to restroom facilities, picnic areas, and athletic equipment installations. The Recreation Department completed its second "learn to swim" program in cooperation with the Santa Cruz Seaside Company. 250 boys and girls enrolled in the program. In the first seven days of the Summer Recreation Program (June, 1954), the daily registration (morning, afternoon, and evening) was in excess of 4000. (Total for seven days.)

The most important new development is the acquisition of the 13.68 acres of Harvey West property with stadium, dressing rooms, clubhouse, etc.

Santa Cruz now has finer park and recreation facilities than the average city in California.

Recommendations have been made to place on the ballot for public approval or disapproval the sale of two pieces of Park property which have been in disuse. These are:

(a) small lot adjoining DeLaveaga Park on Pacheco near the south side of the park.

(b) lot commonly referred to as Logan street site.

Also contemplated for the coming year is the landscaping of Seabright Park when the old Museum building is razed, and more adequate signing of all park areas, including Plaza Municipal Park in front of the Holy Cross church, which sometimes has not been used because of the lack of knowledge that this is a public park area.

Auditorium

A Council committee has been appointed by the Mayor to study needed improvements to the Civic Auditorium and make recommendations to the City Council.

Previously considered improvements include: (a) remodeling of concession facility; (b) auxiliary (emergency) power and lighting installation; (c) new sound screen, fire screen and spot light. Budget appropriations already assure the spotlight and sound screen installation.

of manning, furnishing, and building the new West Side Fire Station on Younglove avenue.

Currently the department officers and men are working on the problem of vacant property and the cleaning of lots. The Fire Chief has been trying to assist people in clearing their lots by locating contractors who are willing to disc lots for a reasonable price. Fortunately for the community welfare, most citizens are cooperating with the Fire Department in trying to solve this problem.

The Fire Department has completed a successful year of operating the gas station for all passenger and emergency vehicles at the East Side station. The main station has recently completed a model shop facility in the rear of the Auditorium.

Finance

The City Clerk and Treasurer and the staff of this office are doing a very commendable job in accounting, handling, and reporting on City finances.

New equipment will be necessary in this department in the next two years to maintain the efficiency of this office, which manages over one and one-half million dollars in City financial transactions.

Civil Defense

Sometime this fall we will try actual field tests of certain functions of our Civil Defense organizations.

One of our biggest remaining problems is properly preparing ourselves for the responsibility of evacuation and welfare needs. Work is now being done on this phase of the program in cooperation with the County Welfare Department.

Library Books Are Reviewed

More new books arrived at the Santa Cruz library this week and received short reviews by Elizabeth Barnes.

"Balanchine's Complete Stories of the Great Ballets," by George Balanchine. Besides stories of more than a hundred ballets, this book includes sections on the history of the ballet, ballet for children and guides to selected readings and recordings.

"Crocodile Fever," by Lawrence Earl. The personal history of Bryan Herbert Dempster who makes his living by hunting crocodiles in South Africa.

"Madame de Pompadour," by Nancy Mitford. A biography of the mistress of Louis XV.

"Mamie Doud Eisenhower," by Dorothy Brandon. A biography of the "first lady."

"Nemesis of Power," by John Wheeler-Bennett. This book tells

largement of the Air Observation Post has been accomplished at this segment of Civil Defense functioning well with the concerted voluntary cooperation of local citizens who stand ready watches in the post headquarters at the end of the wharf atop General Fish warehouse building.

Library-Museum

Finally, the City and County have accomplished a mutually agreeable formula for financing City library services under the supervision of the City library staff.

Currently the Seabright Library and Museum are being consolidated and housed in the Seabright Library. The Museum building will be razed and a landscaped park area will adjoin the building.

The Board of Trustees and City Council have considered relocating the Eastside branch so that children and elderly citizens can obtain library service without the hazards of vehicular traffic which is increasing on both sides of this branch building. Also, more adequate parking can be provided in a change of site.

Water

Last but not least, the subject of water development, as in other areas of rapid growth, has become one of our foremost municipal problems.

Our municipal transmission system is gradually being improved and this year marked the completion of a new coast transmission line. However, we are still counting on annual rain and runoff to provide water in the dry season.

Both the State Division of Water Resources Report (1954) and Consulting Water Engineers agree additional supply must be impounded.

The Water Commission and City Council have spent many hours studying and discussing site and engineering problems and have budgeted funds to determine the best sites to submit to the citizens of Santa Cruz as alternate projects for their selection and approval.

Respectfully submitted,
R. N. KLEIN
City Manager

Sunday, July 25, 1954

Santa Cruz Sentinel-News-5

NARCE Elects Jeppe Juhl

The National Association of Retired Civil Employees has elected Jeppe Juhl, 221 Laurent street, president. Other officers chosen at a recent meeting of the organization in Hackley hall are C. A.

Poole, vice president; Lewis J. Wirht, secretary, and Frank L. Blaisdell, treasurer.

The association will meet August 4 at 2 p.m. in Hackley hall.

The "Black House" at Guilford, Conn., was painted black by a French refugee when he learned of the execution of Louis XVI.

ARIONS PLAN PICNIC
The Arion Singing Society and families will have a picnic today at the Rother place on the Los Gatos highway.

Control of insects in recent years has added a third to U. S. potato production per acre.

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At this point the wharf is to be widened and two new buildings constructed. At the foot of the wharf another new building will replace the present dilapidated structure housing the sandwich and soft drink stand and bathhouse. Adjacent to this improvement, new restrooms for Cowell Beach are contemplated.

Street. Street improvements fall in two distinct categories as a result of the difference in financing. Major City Streets, which are designated by Council resolution and approved by the State Division of Highways as important traffic arterials, may be improved with City allocation of Gas Tax funds. High Street, Laurel Street, "daylighting" of the lot at Branciforte and Water Streets, and a percentage of the maintenance on streets of major importance were accomplished this past year. Regular street maintenance and improvements to minor city streets as well as an increased street painting program have been completed by the Street Department. Several innovations by this department include the new metal barricades along East and West Cliff Drives and at several other points throughout the city.

You have no doubt noted the bright yellow trash drums placed along the Cliff Drive by the Street Department. These have materially assisted the City in maintaining a cleaner appearance in these areas. Twenty-five additional waste receptacles have been installed in the business districts.

Besides regular maintenance

Our annual purchase-maintenance agreement on City passenger vehicles has been so successful that on July 1 we are starting the same program with pick-ups on a three-year agreement basis. This should save approximately \$6000 in three years and provide the City with superior equipment.

Building. The Building Department now divides its inspection work into an east side and west side section with the River as the dividing line. This Department has caught up with a previous backlog on special permit work and is continuing to pursue its very successful campaign to eliminate buildings unfit for human habitation and use.

Electric and Communications. Many of you have seen the latest downtown installation of new business district street lights. This year new lights will be installed in the Eastside Business District and additions will be made to the downtown lighting program; however, because of limited funds, this modernization will not be completed until the end of 1955.

Very satisfactory results have been obtained by the communications installation in sanitation vehicular equipment and we have enjoyed exceptionally low maintenance costs in other city radio equipment maintained by this Department.

Sanitation. Exceptional citizen cooperation has made this department's work gradually easier and

money has been budgeted this year for painting of the hallways and lobby, and we hope that eventually we can complete the furnishing of the two public conference rooms opened over a year ago.

Police

One of the finest additions to our Public Safety department is the growth and training of an outstanding Police Reserve unit led by Capt. Ben Krupp (in charge of police training). This unit is ably manned by 71 citizens who serve on a voluntary basis and provide a needed police increment for Civil Defense and local disaster.

Continuous studies have been made of traffic problems and the last budgeted addition to the department for school crossings is the four adult crossing guards to be employed in September for critical school crossings. These guards will supplement the outstanding Santa Cruz Junior Traffic Patrol units from each school.

Fire

The largest general fund addition to the budget last year and for the coming year is the cost

of the story of how the German army survived its defeat in November 1918; of how it then dominated the political life of the German Republic; and of the events leading to its later defeat in World War II.

"Peacocks on the Lawn," by Winston Clewes. A novel of an English bachelor of forty, in Ireland for a holiday, who gathers together, the threads of an old sad love story.

"Power of Words," by Stuart Chase. A book on semantics whose purpose is to interpret significant findings about language and communication.

"Producing and Directing for Television," by Charles Adams. Written for the professional, for the small-station owner, and for the novice who wishes to make a career in television.

"Shark," by Patrick O'Connor. A tale of four men in a small boat sailing some of the most treacherous seas in the world in pursuit of the five-ton basking shark.

"35mm Photography," by Jacob Deschin. Practical information and guidance in using the miniature camera.

Amateur radio stations in the United States are limited to 1,000 watts of power output and some stations use as little as 10 watts.

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