

Weather Report

Temperature for the 24-hour period ending at 8 a. m. today — Maximum 78, minimum 48.

Monterey Bay Area — Fair through tomorrow; little temperature change; north-northeast winds, 10-20 m.p.h.

Employees - County

103rd Year—No. 53

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Rescue

7 Per Cent Pay Increase Asked By Santa Cruz County Employees

By Norman Indahl

A recommendation for a 7 per cent across the board pay increase for county employes was submitted to the civil service commission last night by the Santa Cruz County Employees association.

The commission also received the 1959 Santa Cruz county salary survey of Personnel Director John Toombs which contains recommended salary increases for county employes, marked at \$116,500, with a 5 per cent pay hike for employes to meet the increased cost of living.

A public hearing on the salary survey by the personnel director will be conducted by the commission March 24 at 8 p.m. in the board of supervisors chambers.

The board would like the salary recommendations of the commission "as soon as possible" for study during the upcoming budget sessions, Supervisor Hulda McLean reported.

A recommended 2 per cent across the board pay hike not granted last year, coupled with the present 5 per cent sought this year, accounts for the total

of 7 per cent increase requested, Ed Strite, chairman of the association salary committee, explained.

The state has recommended a 5 per cent increase for its employes this year to compensate for the rise in the cost of living, he said.

The salary committee wants the commission to recognize seniority given to employes by the creation of a sixth and seventh step in the present salary plan. Added steps would be attained after 10 and 15 years of continuous service.

In a comparison of eight counties, the salary committee found Santa Cruz' over-all average to be low. Some counties gave mid-year raises to their employes to offset the rapid rise in cost of living taking place since their raise of last July, according to the report.

Counties compared in the survey were Monterey, Marin, Sonoma, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Merced, Butte and Solano. The association used the same counties, selected by Toombs and county employes, last year for its salary survey.

PLC Hearing On Citizens