

HOSPITAL

**Weather Report**

Temperature for the 24 hour period ending at 8 a.m. today — Maximum 59, minimum 46.

Monterey Bay Area — Rain tonight; showers tomorrow; southerly wind, 30-40 knots, decreasing tonight.

# Santa Cruz Sentinel

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SIXTEEN PAGES

# CMA Urges County Hospital Reform

Changes

# Changes Could Cost \$100,000

A major reorganization of the county hospital that could cost the taxpayers an additional \$100,000 a year was recommended today in the long-awaited report by a special investigating committee of the California Medical association.

As expected, the 23-page report contained a scathing criticism of the current resident physician training program and cited a general lack of responsibility toward the hospital by many doctors in the community.

Included in the reorganization plan is a recommendation to appoint a lay administrator for the hospital and establish the position of chief of medical services and director of medical education.

If followed by the board, that recommendation would eliminate the post now held by Hospital Administrator Dr. Robert Radl. He now serves as both hospital administrator and director of medical services.

The report made it clear Dr. Radl was not being recommended for the new post of medical services director.

"The present medical director has not demonstrated his adequacy to fulfill the requirements of this position," the report stated. "He has failed to delegate administrative authority and has continued to occupy himself with the details of administration."

The committee reported it had not learned enough about the abilities of Assistant Administrator Robert Cohn, but stated it would not be adverse to his being appointed hospital administrator on an interim basis.

Another major recommendation of the report was the increasing of the resident physicians' staff to eight doctors. The report said the current residents are "grossly overworked" and would have little time to take part in a training program if one were active.

The lack of a training program was cited as the main reason for a scarcity of residents at the hospital. Morale among the residents was called "very low" in the report.

"The resident physicians feel a lack of responsibility on the part of the medical director toward their interests," the report said. "They are also disturbed by his failure to participate directly in patient care."

Although the committee commended the visiting physicians at the hospital, it blasted the majority of doctors in the community for "apathy toward the hospital." It stated they seem to have no feeling of responsibility for the provision of medical care to the indigents of the county.

A major factor in the anticipated rise in hospital costs is a committee recommendation that visiting physicians be paid. The pay for residents was suggested as \$600 a month.

"I feel the report is very helpful and I will support many of the measures recommended," Supervisor Hulda McLean said today. "I do not know how far the board can go on the requests for increased expenditures. This will have to be carefully worked out at budget time." Mrs. McLean estimated it would cost \$100,000 to carry out the recommendations.

The report also commended the board of supervisors for taking the emergency action of paying doctors in the community to relieve the critical hospital situation. The board requested the study by the CMA committee which was made during the closing two months of 1961.

The authors of the report are Dr. Louie Girtman, assistant director of Contra Costa county hospital; Dr. John Saidy, former chief-of-staff at Mills Memorial hospital; and Dr. Abraham Sirbu, chief-of-staff at Mt. Zion hospital in San Francisco.