



STREET LIGHT

County Employees To Hold Mass Meeting On Wage Freeze Protest

Santa Cruz county employees have called a special meeting for tonight at 8 p.m. in the superior court room of the old court house, to protest an arbitrary freezing of wages by the supervisors for the 1949-50 fiscal year.

Many department heads, who do not wish to be quoted because of their appointive positions, have protested an indiscriminate refusal to grant wage increases in most of the county departments, it was reported.

Notices were sent out this week by the supervisors notifying the department heads of the action.

In the main, according to notices posted upon bulletin boards, the automatic step increases as provided in the salary ordinance have

been refused.

Some wages in the smaller income brackets apparently are slated for a few employees, the department heads claim.

No increases were granted county health department nurses or sanitarians nor were any allowed for county hospital nurses. The same situation holds apparently true in other departments, with a few exceptions, according to notices received by the heads of the offices.

It was understood that Ernie Balke, president of the Santa Cruz County Employees' association will not attend tonight's meeting, which will be presided over by Kenneth Tweedy of Watsonville, the vice-president.

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