

The San Francisco POLICEMAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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151

DECEMBER 6, 1955

The Christmas Party

On the morning of December 10th at 9:30 a.m., the Police Association will present the Annual Christmas Party for all children under 10 years of age whose fathers are members of the Association. The party will be at the Parkside Theatre at 19th & Taraval. The doors will open at 9:00 a.m. and the show will start at 9:30 a.m. on the dot. After the show there will be a gift for every child as well as candy and cookies.

Be sure to bring your card with you as this will aid the members of the committee to speed up the distribution of the presents.

Deputy Dave, a long standing favorite of the kids will be there and the management of the Parkside has promised us a 20 minute Christmas film which has never been shown in San Francisco.

The children always have a wonderful time at this party, don't cheat your kids out of a good time. Be prompt are remember to bring the post card with you.

We plan to publish this paper every month for the members of the association. Any criticism, contribution or suggestion will be appreciated. Contact any member of the publications committee.

Widows' And Orphans' Ass'n. Annual Election

In the first issue of the paper we told you of some of the advantages gained by holding membership in the Association. You were advised as to the things in which you could participate such as our regular monthly meetings, planning meetings for the Grand Ball and actual activity in the staging of the Ball.

At this time of each year we have an event calling for the participation of every member. We refer, of course, to our annual election of officers. As you know the success of an organization depends largely upon its leadership. We have been very fortunate over the years in having outstanding leadership. In the matter of our yearly Ball we have achieved a financial success unapproached by any police organization of any city. This progress may be explained by an examination of the personnel selected each year to do the job. Our committee chairmen and those named to the several committees have shown outstanding ability in leadership.

The membership at large has the responsibility of selecting the Officers of the Association each year. This is accomplished by means of an election held in December. Candidates for the ten offices are nominated at the regular meeting held in November of each year and the names placed on the ballot submitted to the membership.

This year's ballot, as usual, contains the names of excellent men willing to exert their efforts in your behalf. Many have served in various capacities for several years, others are comparatively new, all are dedicated to the interests

of the Widows' and Orphans' Aid Association and deserving of your consideration.

The candidates and offices sought are as follows: Candidate for the office of Worthy President, Ted Dolan; for office of Vice-President, candidates are William Murphy and James Quigley; for office of Recording Secretary, Thomas Fitzpatrick; for office of Financial Secretary, Owen Fogarty, for office of Treasurer, Gerald Flynn; candidates for the Board of Trustees, five to be elected are: Michael Buckley, James Diggins, Edward Hahn, Sr., Phil Kiely, Ford Long, Dan Murphy, William O'Halloran and Vincent Simpson.

In addition to voting for these officers you will note that this year's ballot has a proposition designed to stagger the terms of three officers so that at no time will the Association be without the services of an experienced officer. This is a proposition to amend Article I Section 3 of the Constitution and necessitates a two-thirds majority to pass.

Each election is very important to the functioning of the organization and we urge every member to cast his vote.

The election will be held on Friday, December 9th, 1955. So that no one may be inconvenienced in voting those who will have a watch off on election day may vote on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, December 6th, 7th or 8th, respectively.

The interest in the organization is shown by the ballots cast let's have one hundred percent interest this year.

Minutes of Police November 15, 1955 Association Meeting

In the absence of President James Diggins, 1st Vice-President Pete Gardner called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Uniform Allowance. A discussion was entered into on possible reasons for the defeat of the amendment.

Certain outside groups felt that the members of the Department were not entitled to any allowance; that the amount of allowance requested was too high; that the clothing should be provided for instead of cash; that other city employees would then be seeking the same if the police and fire departments were successful; that the cartoon in the daily papers and the small ads several days before election were the undermining pins; that the endorsements of the daily papers were too premature.

The Legislative Committee will confer with the downtown people before the end of the year to seek their support on a compromise measure for the providing of uniforms. Their representative stated before the Board of Supervisors' Judiciary Committee that they felt we should seek a uniform replacement rather than a cash allowance.

A financial report on the spending of the money in the campaign will be rendered at the December membership meeting. Some 400 members did not contribute towards the campaign.

The committee will make a survey of the districts by precincts when the information is available to ascertain where we lost ground. A poll showed us 3% ahead the week before election—just before the cartoon ad was placed in the daily papers.

Department Welfare Fund. Our annual contribution to the United Crusade has been paid.

PEACE OFFICERS' RESEARCH MEETING AT POMONA. A full report on this meeting will be published in a subsequent edition of this paper. Information was obtained at this meeting that a new process is being devised for arriving at salaries for Los Angeles policemen and firemen.

Retirement Committee. Good cooperation was received from the Department members who testified in the Retirement Board hearing on the petition of Mrs. Walter Harrington. A decision on this petition is expected before the end of the year.

The importance of members reporting all injuries, however slight, was stressed. This is not only essential for the medical record which is perused when a member appears before the Retirement Board for a disability pension but also for the statistical purposes. If the accidents are not reported statistics will show that the policeman's job is not hazardous. This can be used against the membership not only

The Police Association

In answer to many questions put to the various officers of the association we shall endeavor to make a compilation of the gains in working conditions that have been effected since the association took over the job of representing police officers in San Francisco.

Some of the far-seeing members of the department as early as January of 1942 decided that a change in the over-all working conditions for policemen was desirable. These police officers in order to accomplish this objective felt that an organization of some sort should be formed whose basic purpose would be to propose changes in retirement, hours of duty, wages and other working conditions. After many meetings of this group it was decided to form what we now know as the San Francisco Police Officers Association. April the 24th, 1942 a notice was sent to members of the department that a meeting would be held. This meeting was held on May 1, 1942 with more than 100 members in attendance.

The San Francisco Police Officers Association was formed on petition of members who had participated in these group meetings and other members who had participated in various work projects. It was decided that the Association would be non-political in character and that its major purpose was to be to unify the efforts of police officers toward a common purpose. Finally that it is an association for all police officers and majority opinion would be the rule.

Let's go back to 1942 and take a look at the economic status of the patrolmen in the department. They were earning \$200.00 per month, working 48 hours

from a retirement standpoint but also when we are seeking the betterment of our working conditions using as one argument the job's hazards.

Blood Bank Committee. The last drive brought in nineteen units.

Xmas Tree Party Committee. The chairman requested the members to return the cards sent them immediately so that the committee will know just how many children to prepare for.

Membership Committee. As of this date there were 1334 paid up members.

Meeting of the Board of Directors. The meeting concurred in the following recommendations of the Board of Directors.

1) That an actuarial survey report be sought on the costs of retirement proposals for the November 1956 election ballot.

2) That a letter be sent to the Chief of Police requesting that copies of all the current codes with which we must work be furnished each station.

3) That a total of twelve turkey orders be awarded at the November membership meeting; seven for members present and five for absentee members.

Sick Committee. Brother Arthur Pos-

ner, Mission Station, is in St. Luke's Hospital, suffering from a blood clot of the heart. He was jostled at a recent professional football game at Kezar Stadium while on duty there. It was shortly thereafter that he felt ill and was hospitalized. It was suggested to a representative of Mission Station that the regular form for disability in the line of duty be processed for Brother Posner.

A motion was passed directing the formation of a committee to call upon the administrative head of the Police Department for the purpose of establishing a procedure of availing the members of the Department of the benefits provided in Section 268 & 269 of the Municipal Code. Such a procedure should take care of cases as Brother Posner's.

Turkey Awards. The following members were recipients of turkey awards in amount of \$8.00 each. PRESENT (7): John Schilling, Patrick Byrne, Thomas Sugrue, Robert Bertelsen, Richard Hallock, and Norman Ronneberg. ABSENTEE (5): Kenneth Murphy, Edmond Clifford, Julio Fernandez, Walter Sparks and Clifford Smith.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m. Refreshments were served following adjournment.

No organization is any stronger than its membership. Our Association is recognized nationally as the sole representative of police officers in San Francisco. The active support of all of the members of the department is the life blood of the Association.

In order for us to maintain our position it is essential that you support your Association by being an active member. Attend meetings, don't keep the gripes in the locker room bring them to meetings. Pay your dues and take an active part.

Wishing You

And Your Families

A VERY MERRY

CHRISTMAS

And A

HAPPY & PROSPEROUS

NEW YEAR