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# The San Francisco POLICEMAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



NOVEMBER, 1957

## Election Gains and Losses

### What's In It For Me?

There's a question heard throughout the length and breadth of the world. Wars, political shenanigans, and all manner of human losses have their root cause in just this question.

It's human nature all right and to a point it is a fair attitude for a man to have. But, once past this point of reason men cease to think and to some extent revert to cave man days.

It appears that many have become cave men and want all the meat for themselves and don't care about the rest.

Participation in association affairs is shunned like sin. Why should I, what's in it for me?

Here's what's in it for you if you would take the time to consider. Twelve years ago top patrolmen earned \$285.00 per month, worked a forty-eight hour week, a limited number of paid holidays, had only two weeks vacation, poor pro-

position I, which will allow the Board of Supervisors to set the hazard pay received by members of the Solo Motorcycle Detail in the same manner in which basic compensation is set, passed. Proposition L did not.

There was considerable opposition against "L" and because of this opposition many possible yes votes were lost. It may be that the members of the department were not in 100% accord with the particulars of the amendment. This observation is borne out by the fact that we took the worst beating of our time. The men who did not contribute toward the campaign did their share, the men who didn't even put themselves out to ask their friends to vote for them cost us a great many votes.

The important thing is not the actual amendment but the fact of another defeat on the ballot brought about to a large measure by the lackadaisical attitude of too many policemen. This attitude, if allowed to permeate the whole department, will bring about the legislative death of the police officers of San Francisco.

The small amount of money collected would not finance a really full blast campaign. However, great amounts of money have not won for us in the past. The cost of living index raise campaign of 1951 proved this. A great war chest was assembled, bill boards and all manner of advertising were used yet we were beaten by a simple cartoon the caption of which brings back some unpleasant memories: "Don't sign this blank check."

It isn't money that wins fights, it's determination and a little guts. The Legislative Committee did the best part of the campaigning with little or no assistance from the rest of us. There was a good lesson for us this time if we are wise enough to heed it. A house divided against itself cannot stand.

In the future consider the painful loss of a defeat at election time, consider our loss of prestige. Opposition from various groups in the city can pull a great vote but hard work could more than offset this pressure. It's up to you.

—Continued on Page 4

# Social Security Plan 'Insecure'

Reprint from L. A. Examiner, September 24, 1957

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By E. F. TOMPKINS

Social Security—the collection of payroll taxes to pay old-age pensions—will demand congressional attention when the second session begins.

On one hand, Congress will receive vote-seeking proposals (a) to increase the number of persons "eligible" for benefits, and (b) to increase the benefits now provided by law for eligibles.

Obviously, if the increases are authorized, payments out of Social Security funds will be vastly increased over previous estimates.

On the other hand, Congress will be warned that the Social Security system is now doubly insolvent.

Its annual payroll-tax revenues are no longer sufficient to carry its annual benefit disbursements. Moreover, the Social Security trust-fund—accumulated in past years from surplus payroll taxes and "invested" with the Treasury as a "reserve"—is also inadequate.

In fact, the excess payroll taxes have been spent as Federal revenue, and the trust fund consists in Treasury IOU's, which must be redeemed when due or needed from other tax sources.

### Alternates

Sooner or later, the situation must result in one of three things:

1—Heavy increases in future payroll taxes, above rates now scheduled, with burdensome effects on employment and wages.

2—Abolition of payroll taxes and adoption of the Canadian plan which defrays Social Security benefits out of income and sales taxes.

3—Abandonment of the Social Security program as a bankrupt venture in welfare legislation. This, of course, is doubtful, for it implies confiscation of trust funds and repudiation of governmental obligations.

Trust fund insolvency was discussed recently before the National Association of Life Underwriters by its vice president, Albert C. Adams.

The Social Security trust fund, he said, is insolvent in the sum of three hundred billion dollars. The fund is represented as having an accrued balance, or reserve, of \$23 billion. But its "accumulated liability"—that is, payments due or pledged to beneficiaries—is \$323 billion, or 14 times as much as the reserve.

The Social Security system became insolvent on a day-to-day basis only lately.

### Poses Problem

For this fiscal year, payments are estimated at \$7.4 billion and payroll-tax col-

lections at \$6.9 billion—a cash shortage of half a billion for the year. Hence the Social Security system is now depleting its supposed reserve instead of building it up.

Congressional habit has been to expand the Social Security program periodically, especially in congressional election years.

That was politically feasible while payroll taxes exceeded annual benefit payments.

Next year, it seems evident, Congress may have to find a new formula to maintain the system.

## Vital Statistics

### RETIREMENTS:

Joseph Kermabon 6-26  
Bart Lally 7-3  
Michael Fitzpatrick 7-25  
Emile Reulein 7-28  
Joseph McCormick 8-11  
Arthur Morrison 8-12  
Frank Akers 8-12  
Ernest Lindenau 8-12  
George Young 8-21  
Bill Cooley 9-1  
Harold Brown 8-4  
Victor Herbert 9-11  
Edward McKernan 10-16  
Max Reznik 11-5

### DECEASED:

Tim Boland 7-25  
Edward Mahoney 8-16  
Arthur Oliva 11-4

### RESIGNED:

Joe Oliver 7-6  
Leo Jones 7-23  
Ray McGlade 8-4  
Policewoman Shirley Barison  
Paul Paulides 8-18  
Walter Kent 8-19  
John Mara 9-5  
Dale Allen 8-12  
Oren Monroe 10-1  
Joseph Blessing 10-11

### PROMOTIONS:

Bill Guthrie to As. Insp. 7-1  
Bill Denser to Insp. 7-1  
Walt Kracke to As. Insp. 7-3  
Gerald Flynn to Insp. 7-3  
Con Ryan to Sgt. 7-3  
Luther Burton to Sgt. 7-3  
Frank Gregg to Lieut. 8-1  
Al Chaquette to Sgt. 8-1  
Dan Quinlan to Capt. of Insp. 8-1  
Roy Peterson to Sgt. 8-13  
Ray Seyden to Sgt. 8-13  
Bob Whiting to Sgt. 8-13  
Joe Creighton to As. Insp. 8-13.

# What's In It For Me?

Continued from Page 1—

tection for their families in the event of death in line of duty, no court overtime, and so on. It would be well to consider how changes in our conditions came to pass.

It was not a group of cave men sulking in the blackened recesses of a mountain cave who worked to effect these changes. It was a group of men such as yourself who cared about the other guy and were willing to put themselves out a little. They asked what's in it for me also. But the point is that they thought about the other fellow alongside them as well and began to make some attempt to modernize the medieval conditions under which policemen had to work.

The Police Officers' Association became strong. The strength came in unity. Gradually through many fights our conditions began to improve. The late 1940's and early 1950's may be considered as the era of emancipation of the policeman. He gained stature in the city, his pay began to approach his value to this community. People were informed about these deplorable conditions and through the leadership of the Association rectified many of them.

In 1957 many of us through a short-sighted lens see these advancements as natural. We would have gotten them anyway. This is the simplest reasoning possible. We would NOT have gotten them without hard work and sometimes sacrifice.

How would we have gotten them on a natural? Who would have led the crusade? Only an Association such as we have could have worked toward these things.

Why should I come to the meetings and listen to the same old guys talk every time? Better still, why shouldn't

## National Conference of Police Associations

Washington 1, D. C.

### RESOLUTION

Whereas, the San Francisco Police Officers' Association has contributed materially to the success of our convention and:

Whereas, members of the San Francisco Police Officers' Association have contributed so much in the way of time and effort to make our convention the success that it was:

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we, the membership of the National Conference of Police Associations, in Convention Assembled this 10th day of July, 1957, in San Francisco, California, do hereby express our commendation and appreciation to the San Francisco Police Officers' Association for their graciousness and hospitality which has made our stay in the "City by the Golden Gate" one of the utmost in comfort and enjoyment.

Approved: July 10, 1957.

/s/ Jack L. Halstead  
President  
Secretary-Treasurer  
/s/ Royce L. Givens

you come to the meetings and take a more active part so that "the same old guys" wouldn't be doing a lot of the talking, which talking incidentally is usually reports of work they have been doing. Why couldn't you help with some of the work? Heaven knows you'd be welcome.

Aw, you can't get a word in edgewise at one of those meetings. Have you ever tried? Why not come and give your side of a question. A good for example: Proposition "L". Many men couldn't see one point or another but did they ever show up and give us their views? No, they did not and because they wouldn't come forward, they stayed in their caves and licked their wounds. Come out of the cave into the swim, the water is fine and maybe another drowning at the polls may be averted.

## MORE MINUTES

Continued from Page 3—

chief of police on the matter of anonymous letters of complaint.

**WEIBE CASE:** Bro. Weibe asked the members if they were still of the same feeling as they were at the January 1957 meeting when they voted to appropriate \$350 from Association funds monthly until the amount of \$1,000 was reached to pay for the court costs involved in his fight to retain his position as department criminologist. (Subsequent to the January action the Weibe case was a dead issue until recently when the Police Commission obtained a ruling from the City Attorney that Bro. Weibe could be charged for violating certain department rules and regulations).

**CANDIDATES' NIGHT:** At this point the meeting was declared recessed until after all candidates in the forthcoming election were heard.

**WEIBE CASE (CONTINUED):** Motion carried that we follow through on the original declaration of policy in the Weibe case.

President Simpson thanked the members, some 100, for their turnout for candidates' night.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m. after a moment's silence in honor of our departed brothers.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Refreshments were served immediately following the meeting.

James J. Hegarty  
Secretary

## Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 19  
8 P.M.

3543 - 18th Street  
For Action:

- 1) Recommendation to settle out of court settlement for eight officers involved in civil suit.
- 2) Recommendation to employ an attorney to fight for longevity pay.

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# Minutes, Tues., Oct. 15, 1957, Membership Meeting

**MINUTES:** Motion carried that the reading of the minutes of the September meeting be dispensed with as same were published in the Sept.-Oct. issue of "The Policeman."

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Burke (Auto Detail) rendered the monthly financial statement.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Treasurer Burke reported paid up membership of 1200.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Letter from City Attorney Dion Holm's office advising of Mr. Holm's absence from city but that a member of his office will appear for Candidates' Night.

**BILLS:** Motion carried directing payment of all current bills.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:** Chairman Ted Dolan (Academy) reported that campaign headquarters for Proposition "L" had been set up at 995 Market Street, Suite 402. The campaign committee is working in close cooperation with other city groups working for Proposition "K" (Health Service System). The committee feels that despite the position of some of the major dailies that we can still win if police department members will get out and work for the amendment. Their efforts coupled with the cooperation of other city employees should bring success. Only organizations against measure are the Municipal Conference, the newspapers, and the Steuben Society. The Municipal Conference is against the measure because it calls for the expending of unfounded monies. Contributions from amongst our own membership are coming in very slowly. This campaign is the least expensive to the department membership; some campaigns in the past called for assessments as high as \$25 per man.

**UNIT UNION COMMITTEE:** Chairman Diggins (Motorcycles) reported union ranks No. 3 out of 107 in the city. Our union has been in effect 3½ years and has exceeded the million mark.

**SICK COMMITTEE:** Chairman Sol Weiner (Park) reports that R. Weiler

and M. Gottung are on sick leave. No members in Ward No. 1, San Francisco Hospital.

**HEALTH SERVICE COMMITTEE:** Board member Ted Dolan outlined the high points of Proposition "K".

**REPORT ON PORAC CONVENTION IN SAN DIEGO:** Delegate Nick Galousin (Richmond) reported that the convention took action towards having re-introduced in the State Legislature two years hence the heart bill which was defeated at this last session. PORAC is also going to conduct a survey of heart condition amongst police departments in California. The purpose is to show that police work causes heart disability. This will be used as ammunition when the measure is reintroduced. Minimum standards and social security for policemen were also discussed. A more comprehensive report on the convention will be given when the minutes become available to all delegates.

**BLOOD BANK COMMITTEE:** Co-chairman Carlton Vogelsang (Traffic) reported that 81 units on deposit. This supply should last until January at which time another drive will be made to bolster the account. Another drive will then be held the following July. The holding of these drives during these periods will also assist the blood bank as these times are their slack periods for the receiving of blood.

**DEPARTMENT WELFARE FUND:** Board member Alan Rosenbaum (Taraval) reported that the United Crusade asked for \$11,500. The fund voted them \$10,000; the same amount as last year.

**PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE:** Chairman William Murphy (Ingleside) reported progress.

1st Vice President Vogelsang reported that Bruce Smith who is presently surveying the department would like to meet with a committee from this Association to discuss police matters. A motion that the Legislative Committee meet with the Chief of Police and give him our ideas about promotional opportunities and other progressive ideas commensurate with a metropolitan police department to be transmitted to Mr. Smith was voted down. An Association committee had previously attempted to obtain permission to talk with Mr. Smith on such matters but was turned down by the Police Commission.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Chairman George Jeffery (A.P.B.) reported that the party for the youngsters of the members of this Association would be held again at the Parkside Theater on Saturday, December 14, 1957, at 9:30 a.m. Invitation postcards will only be sent to paidup members. The addressing of the postcards will be done by Secretary He-

garty. The postcards will then be turned over to Treasurer Burke who will send the cards only to those members, who according to his books, have paid their 1957-58 dues.

**AUDITING COMMITTEE:** Secretary Hegarty directed by President Simpson to notify the Auditing Committee, comprised of Ed Naughton (Northern), George Jeffery (A.P.B.), and Alfred Miley (Potrero) to audit the books of the Treasurer and report their findings to the November meeting.

**RETIREMENT COMMITTEE:** Bro. William Murphy reported that Bro. Ted Dolan has not lost any case before the Retirement Board because he has carefully investigated and prepared his cases before submission to the board. None of the cases he submitted were phony.

Bro. Murphy re-stated his position as a member of the board; that if the evidence shows that a member is entitled to a disability pension he will vote for it. If he feels that the cases do not warrant a pension he will vote against it.

Bro. Murphy pointed out that in some of the applications received by the board for members to live out of town the members are not making proper application. The only way that the board can authorize a member to live out of town is if he or a member of his immediate family is suffering from an illness which cannot be cured in San Francisco. The member applying must ask permission to live in an area where the weather is beneficial. Some members who have been turned down by the board asked to move to an area near San Francisco where they would not obtain weather that would give them relief.

**CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS COMMITTEE:** Chairman Hegarty reported that the committee's recommendations will be ready for the November meeting.

**ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICEMEN:** A request was made that the Association attempt to do something about the anonymous complaints received by the Chief of Police attacking policemen in the pursuance of their daily duties. Some members expressed opinion that any letter received unsigned by the Chief should find its way to his waste-basket. All too often policemen are called upon to submit reports based on allegations in unsigned letters. The members felt that if a person has a legitimate beef against a policeman that person should be willing to sign his name to his complaint, and be subject to questioning as to its merits, both by the administrative heads and the member concerned.

Motion passed directing the president to appoint a committee to meet with the

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