

The San Francisco Police Officers' Assn.
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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



APRIL, 1957

Proposed Legislation

At the March meeting of your Association there was quite a lot of discussion about changes in the Charter that would help us as policemen. The principal issues were longevity pay, motorcycle hazard pay and some changes in the retirement system.

There was a motion made, seconded and carried unanimously that the Legislative Committee take steps toward going on the ballot in November to secure longevity and motorcycle hazard pay. It was felt that the two should go together on one amendment. Of course, this cannot be considered final action on the matter as any time we go on the ballot a department-wide election must be held to ascertain the feeling of all of the men.

Discussed at some length throughout the department was the impending tax-payer suit against any longevity granted by the Board of Supervisors. Many of the men felt that we could sue to attain the benefit, but failed to see that the Board was under no obligation to grant such longevity pay and therefore suit might prove fruitless. If the measure were put on the ballot and passed, there could be no question as to the legality of such compensation.

Since we have been keeping our salaries commensurate with other large cities in California, it was felt that the motorcycle men too should be kept up to date. Such hazard pay is long overdue.

While the retirement changes were being discussed the question of fluctuating pensions came up. One trend

of thought was that with the passage of such a change members of the system, those now retired and those who will retire in the future, would obtain increases when salaries of active members were raised. They would likewise receive any decreases. This would eliminate retired policemen having to go on the ballot every time the cost of living went up to seek an increase in their pensions.

Opposition to a fluctuating pension stemmed from the fact that the active members of the department would have their contributions increased, possibly to the maximum of 10%, to meet the added cost.

Representatives of the Veteran Police Officers' Association met with your Board of Directors last month to find out what steps your Association was going to take with regard to retirement. They advised that their organization was considering going on the November ballot for one or more of the following:

- 1) Fluctuating pension; 2) to raise the pension of all new system retired members to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 1957 patrolman's top wage. This would apply to all retired members regardless of the rank they held at the time of their retirement; 3) an across-the-board \$25.00 increase in pension.

They cautioned against including the higher ranks if we were to go for a fluctuating pension, because this would undoubtedly lead to strong opposition from the large tax-paying groups. They based this statement on a campaign they conducted in 1952 when the Municipal

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Your Welfare Committee Reports

The primary purpose of the San Francisco Police Department's Welfare Committee is to provide for accredited National Charitable Agencies, and for other than a National non-sectarian purpose.

The sole purpose and function of your organization is to prevent the continuous hands out program of years in the past. You old timers can recall the resentment built up by the continuous presence of the professional beggar who appeared at the various stations and bureaus with pitiful stories of want and need. The softness of heart and the generosity prevalent in the San Francisco Police Department, would not allow its members to turn a deaf ear toward such a needful plea. This, numerous times, resulted in an officer digging into his pocket and at times sharing his dinner money.

Since the advent of the Welfare committee, needful pleas are answered by generous grants and donations, thereby saving the individual officer extreme embarrassment and shame. Through this medium, the San Francisco Police Department is capable of upholding its share of aiding the city which employs him.

Now the time has come, wherein various members of the department, through no fault of their own, are stricken and their families are in dire need. The old axiom prevails, "A policeman as such is ostracized from society, he is a specie all alone. Therefore we must take care of our own."

The present plan of providing for our unfortunate brothers in uniform is nebulous in form, but with proper aid and suggestions from you, will facilitate matters. Presently we are limited by the lack of funds to provide for the payment of huge medical bills, but the future portends such to be the case. At the present time, we can give each needy case a stated sum, not a great amount, but one that will aid the individual's family.

The committee has appointed a screening committee to investigate all needy and deserving cases, and they will act promptly and swiftly, to alleviate most financial distress. The members of said committee are, Chairman James J. McGovern ex-officio member, and Inspectors Louis Lang John Burke, and Officer Joel Cook.

With the payroll deduction system effective, and the current pledges and commitments performed, in due time your committee will be able to handle the

Police-Fire Memorial Mass

On Sunday, April 7, 1957, the annual Memorial Mass for policemen and firemen will be celebrated in St. Mary's Cathedral, Van Ness Avenue and O'Farrell Street, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

All members of the department, their parents, wives, children, friends, and retired officers, irrespective of their religious belief, are invited to attend the ceremony.

It has been observed that in the past few years the attendance of policemen at this special Mass has not been up to the standards of former years.

The question is—"how can we increase our attendance?" The answer is simple—every policeman, who can possibly do so, on the morning of April 7, 1957, should attend the ceremony."

Let us all gather on this day and pay our respects to the memory of those who have gone before us. Let us not forget.

(For information on assemblage see Police Department General Order No. 18 dated March 19, 1957.)

Memorial Mass Committee

hardship cases of the individual members of the San Francisco Police Department. In the past few years since the inception of the Welfare committee, we have handled several cases, without divulging the names of the recipients, to the satisfaction of the families involved. We deem this the best method at the present time.

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LOAN
PROTECTION
INSURANCE**
SFPD Federal Credit Union
Park Station

FOR CLEAN,
WHOLESUME RECREATION
BRING THE CHILDREN
To
**WHITNEY'S
PLAYLAND AT
THE BEACH**
FUN GALORE FOR EVERYONE!

Minutes, Tues., March 19, 1957, Membership Meeting

President Simpson called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present—Pres. Simpson (Taraval), 1st Vice Pres. Vogelsang (Traffic Engineering), 2nd Vice Pres. Weiner (Park), Secretary Hegarty (Northern), Treasurer Burke (Inspectors), Sgt-at-Arms McKee (Fixed Post), Directors Amoroso (Potrero), Bell (E), Williams (Motorcycles), Barberini (Fixed Post), Green (Headquarters), and Dijanich (Range).

Absent—Directors Nieto (Central), Sisser (Southern), Cook (Mission), Powers (Park), Raabe (Richmond), Pulizano (Ingleside), Calhoun (Taraval), Buckman (APB), Flynn (Inspectors), Estupinian (City Prison), Conroy (Juvenile), and Fowlie (Academy).

MINUTES. Motion carried that the reading of the minutes of the February membership meeting be dispensed with.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) Letter 3-13-57 from Park Bowling Alley inviting police to form bowling league. (No action taken).

2) Copy HR bill No. 938 which would grant an exemption from income tax in the case of certain pensions and annuities of policemen and firemen.

3) Letter 2-18-57 from Clerk of Board of Supervisors entitled "Proposed Charter amdt—Section 172.1, revising administrative and financial provisions of the Health Service System.

BILLS. Motion carried that all current bills be paid.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Treasurer Burke rendered the monthly report on finances.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

1) **Salary.** Chairman Dolan (Police Academy) reported that Los Angeles expects a one step (\$27) increase for patrolmen this coming July.

2) **Heart & Pneumonia Bill.** Chairman Dolan and President Simpson are going to Sacramento this coming Friday for the purpose of lending assistance towards the passage of Assembly Bill No. 397, which provides that law enforcement officers who have service of 10 or more years, and, who become incapacitated from pneumonia or a heart ailment, will have been presumed to have incurred such incapacitating ailment in the line of duty, unless otherwise controverted by other evidence.

Motion carried directing that a letter be sent to each of our assemblymen requesting their support of AB 397.

3) **False Arrest.** Two bills have been submitted to the State Legislature which would protect law enforcement officers, when acting within the scope of their employment, from liability. One emanated from the Attorney General's of-

fice; the other is being held in abeyance until outcome of the first is known.

4) Proposed Charter Amendment—Section 172.1, Revising Administrative and Financial Provisions of the Health Service System.

Chairman Dolan reported that the highlights of the proposed amendment are as follows:

(a) Makeup of the Board to administer the system would be the same as the Retirement System's Board.

(b) The city and county can participate financially. (A later proposed change calls for the city and county for financial participation).

A motion which would have put this Association on record of the changes by The Committee to Improve the Health Service System was withdrawn. The opposition to the motion being that the membership was not fully informed as to the contents of the recommended charter amendment, and felt that it should be put over to the April membership meeting, at which time interested members could attend and lend their views.

Motion carried directing that a letter be sent to the Board of Supervisors advising that we are interested in the city and county participating financially in the Health Service System.

RETIREMENT COMMITTEE. Chairman Dolan reported that the Retirement Board had changed the status of one member from SP to DP, retired another on disability pension, and voted a widow a disability retirement.

Three members of the ORIGINAL THIRTY were up for hearing last Wednesday. The Retirement Board decided that the three cases should be heard separately. The three members affected were rendered a continuance for the purpose of acquiring counsel. One of these members has been placed in a DP status since the hearing.

BLOOD BANK COMMITTEE. Co-chairmen Nick Galousin (Richmond) and Carl Vogelsang (Traffic Engineering) reported approximately 20 units of blood used last month; 92 units on hand.

DEPARTMENT WELFARE FUND. Bro. Alan Rosenbaum (Taraval) reported that the fund has taken steps towards rendering assistance to members, and their families, who are in dire need of financial assistance. A Screening Committee composed of Bros. Louis Lang and John Burke (Inspectors Bureau), and Joel Cook, Jr. (Mission) has been

appointed by the directors of the fund. Their assignment is to screen all such requests. The directors of the fund will be guided by their recommendations.

The number of cases requesting financial assistance has increased considerably in the past few months. At present the Fund does not have sufficient monies to take care of all requests. The Fund will decide on steps to be taken towards accruing sufficient funds. It was suggested that the Fund take under consideration the advisability of increasing the amount of contributions of the various ranks to meet this need.

Sgt-at-arms Robert McKee (Fixed Post) reported that he has received slightly over \$1,200 for the family of our late Bro. John Downes. All units have not as yet forwarded their collections.

CREDIT UNION COMMITTEE. Chairman Diggins reported that the assets of the union at the end of the past year were approximately \$833,000.

CARDS OF RETIRED MEMBERS. Motion passing directing that all cards tendered retired members be laminated.

CITY & COUNTY CHARTER. Meeting authorized the Secretary to purchase a copy of the charter. It also directed that he purchase all subsequent changes thereto.

GOOD AND WELFARE. It was pointed out a history of a member receiving injuries are still not reporting them. The membership was again reminded of the importance of reporting all injuries, however slight, in order that there will be a history of a member receiving injuries should he ever have to apply for a disability pension.

UNIFORMS. President Simpson reported that a meeting was held with the Police Chief and Commission on the matter of extending the deadline for the acquiring of the new uniform. This request was made after a number of members complained that the uniform outlets had advised them that they would not be able to have the uniforms ready by April 1. The Commission Secretary was directed by the Commission to contact the uniform outlets and ascertain whether the deadline could be met.

Subsequent to the meeting, information was received that the deadline had been extended to July 1st—the date which the uniform outlets advised they would have the uniforms ready.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. after a moment's silence in honor of our departed brothers. Refreshments were served following the adjournment.

James J. Hegarty
Secretary.

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Proposed Legislation

Continued from Page 1—

Conference was successful in urging a "no" vote against their proposition.

They further advised that there are some 483 retired members and widows under the new system.

The opposition to the pension changes argued that too many matters on the November ballot might lead to the downfall of all. In this case reference was made to the longevity pay and motorcycle hazard pay.

After some lengthy discussion the Legislative Committee was granted full power to act on any matters affecting retirement subject of course to department-wide secret ballot either of affirming or denying the action taken.

Chairman Dolan was instructed to meet with representatives of the Veteran Police to discuss retirement changes further. The last thing we want is conflicting legislation on the ballot.

Secretary Hegarty was instructed to write a letter to the Police Commission requesting permission to take steps toward having an amendment placed on the November ballot embracing the retirement changes. This action is necessary at this time because an actuarial survey must be made on each point to establish its cost and so that the matter may be presented to the Board of Supervisors for their action as to whether they will submit any legislation to the people for a vote. This does not mean that all steps have been taken to put any legislation before the people, keep in mind that there must be a department-wide election before any final action is taken.

The longevity and motorcycle hazard pay issues will be held in abeyance until July, when definite steps will be taken to have it put on the ballot.

HEART-PNEUMONIA BILL AB 397

An act to amend Section 3212 of the Labor Code, relating to workmen's compensation.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 3212 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

3212. In the case of members of a sheriff's office or of police or fire departments of cities, counties, cities and counties, districts or other public or municipal corporations or political subdivisions, whether such members are volunteer, partly paid, or fully paid, and in the case of active fire-fighting members of the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Natural Resources whose duties require fire fighting or of any county forestry or fire-fighting department or unit, whether voluntary, fully paid, or partly paid, and in the case of members of the warden service of the Wildlife Protection Branch of the Department of Fish and Game whose principal duties consist of active law enforcement service, excepting those whose principal duties are clerical or otherwise do not clearly fall within the scope of active law enforcement service such as stenographer, telephone operators, and other office workers, the term "injury" as used in this act includes hernia when any part of the hernia develops or manifests itself during a period while such member is in the service in such office, division, department or unit, and in the case of members of such fire departments, county forestry or fire-fighting departments, and in the case of active fire-fighting members of the Division of Forestry whose duties require fire fighting, and in the case of members of the warden service of the Wildlife Protection Branch of the Department of Fish and Game whose principal duties consist of active law enforcement service, excepting those whose principal duties are clerical or otherwise do not clearly fall within the scope of active law enforcement service such as stenographer, telephone operators, and other office workers, the term "injury" includes pneumonia and heart trouble which develops or manifests itself during a period while such member is in the service of such office, department or unit. In the case of regular salaried county, or city and county peace officers, the term "injury" also includes any

VITAL STATISTICS

Promotions: To Ass't. Insp. 3-16

Russell Woods
Erling Rollison
John Cavalli
Sgt. Frank Wilson
William Sampson
James Casey
Earl O'Brien
Eugene Gibbons
John Kerrigan
Edmund Sarraille
Fred Mullen
Kevin Conroy
Jack Long
Henry Pengel
Sgt. Arthur Morrison
Joseph Carew
Wayne Graves
James Hayes
Ralph McKinley
Carl Christiansen
Joseph Rinken
William Logan
Sgt. George Sully
Ben Lashkoff
Paul Lawlor

Died:

John Downs, 3-14
Ted Whiteside, 2-26
John Cooney, 3-26

Resigned:

Bill Tregoning, 3-21
Don Craig, 4-1

hernia which manifests itself or develops during a period while the officer is in the service. The compensation which is awarded for such hernia, heart trouble or pneumonia, shall include full hospital, surgical, medical treatment, disability indemnity, and death benefits, as provided by the workmen's compensation laws of this State.

Such hernia, heart trouble or pneumonia so developing or manifesting itself in such cases shall be presumed to arise out of and in the course of the employment. In the case where an employee has served less than 10 years as such fire fighting or law enforcement employee, the (This) presumption is disputable and may be controverted by other evidence, but unless so controverted, the commission is bound to find in accordance with it.

Next Meeting

Tuesday

April 16, 8 P.M.

DOVRE HALL

18th between Valencia
& Guerrero