

AREA FACTORY WORKERS' PAY GAINS SLIGHTLY

Production workers in manufacturing industries in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Metropolitan Area earned an average of \$113.24 per week in May, Ernest B. Webb, California Director of Industrial Relations, announced today. This amounted to an increase in gross earnings from May, 1962, of \$1.72 per week, or 1.5 percent.

After allowing for federal and state taxes and the rise in consumer prices over the year, the "real" net spendable earnings, or purchasing power, of a factory worker with three dependents have increased 0.2 percent.

The factory work week averaged 40.3 hours in May, a gain of a full half-hour but below the year-ago level by 0.4 hour. Although most manufacturing industries register shorter work weeks this May than in May, 1962, major exceptions were noted in textiles, instruments, and shipbuilding.

Average hourly earnings edged up from April by one cent to a new high of \$.81, representing an over-the-year increase of seven cents per hour.

YOUR LEGISLATOR AT WORK

By VINCENT THOMAS
68th District Assemblyman

The battles over state fiscal problems which scrambled the final hours of the recently adjourned 1963 Legislature have, understandably enough, been carried over into the current special session. Everyone is watching with interest to learn whether the lines drawn up for the earlier combats will hold firm in this meeting. The outcome of our deliberations will to a large extent depend on this one factor.

The three basic questions put before us for consideration are tax revision, budget increases, and state school support. Legislation relating to all of them was either lost, or badly mangled in the regular session.

The major elements in the governor's tax revision program were putting the personal income tax on a withholding basis, eliminating this tax on the lowest incomes, revising the bank and corporation tax to make payments current, and changing the insurance company tax for the same purpose.

As originally introduced, these and some minor modifications in other taxes, would have increased estimated revenues by \$160 million in this fiscal year, \$150 million in the following.

Survived Assembly
The bills embodying this program successfully survived Assembly action, and came out of Senate committees without much damage. However, when the lead-off bill on bank and corporation taxes failed to get the needed two-thirds vote on the Senate floor on a second try, the remainder of the program was abandoned.

As an immediate result, the budget bill, the total of which was still close to the \$3.25 billion originally requested, was cut back substantially, to \$3.14 billion. Independently, but still linked to the fiscal situation, the school support bill passed the two houses in different versions. It died when the Assembly rejected the Senate draft.

With this history fresh in our minds, we are now considering possible solutions for the problems in these three areas. Bills relating to all of them have been introduced. Others are still being dropped in the hopper. The appropriate committees will have no easy task in weighing the various alternatives and arriving at quick answers.

The compromise tax bills suggested by Senate Republicans on the closing day of the regular session will have an influence on the outcome. Re-introduction of the Senate version of the school support bill, with its use of class sizes and teacher salaries in the formula for al-



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location of funds to school districts, will also affect the result on that matter.

Powerful Effect Seen
Observers have pointed out that the action of the governor, in slashing an additional \$9.4 million in individual items from the budget before signing it, will have a powerful effect on legislation which is finally enacted at this session. They direct attention to two facts.

First, the special session was called to convene before the end of the bill-signing period for the regular session on July 26. Unsigned bills can therefore still be used to coerce votes in our current meeting. Second is the fact that 18 of the 20 items cut by gubernatorial action relate to projects located in districts of senators or assemblymen who voted in opposition to the defeated tax bill.

Only one thing about this current session is certain right now. It will provide a climax to one of the most unusual legislative years California has experienced in a generation. People all over the state will be interested and concerned by our accomplishments.



FRED HANSEN, member of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors, was installed as president of the Torrance Civitans at the 11th annual installation of officers and directors recently in the Gold Room of the Jump 'n Jack. Hansen, a Torrance resident for many years, is vice president and program chairman of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors, and has brought many noted speakers into the area as part of the realtors' extensive educational program.

Rev. Mother Rita Rowley, Of Marymount Order, Dies

Very Reverend Mother D. Rita Rowley, Superior General of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, who conduct Marymount College, high schools and junior schools on the West Coast, died in New York City following a brief illness.

Reverend Mother Rita, whose jurisdiction extended to 11 countries where schools of the R.S.H.M. are located, became the Superior General in 1960. She was the first Superior General to have entered the Order in

the United States. Born in County Leitrim, Ireland, in 1913. Reverend Mother Rita entered the R.S.H.M. in Tarrytown, New York, in 1932 and received her M.A. degree from McGill University and Ph. D. from Laval University in Quebec City. She also studied at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Reverend Mother Gertrude, Provincial of the Western North American Province, Mother M. du Sacre Coeur, president of Marymount College in Palos Verdes Estates, and Mother Cecilia of the Marymount attended the funeral services on July 4 in Tarrytown.

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HAHN'S HARBOR FREEWAY PLAN UNDER STUDY

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has been informed by Metropolitan District engineer Edward T. Telford that his suggestions to ease traffic jams at the Harbor Freeway-Santa Monica Freeway interchange are under study.

Hahn offered the suggestions in a letter to Telford May 1. He complained of "constant traffic jams caused by cars entering the Harbor Freeway from the Santa Monica Freeway and leaving the Harbor for the Santa Monica."

The supervisor noted that the intersection of the Santa Monica and Harbor free-

Little Company Board Will Meet Thursday

The advisory board of Little Company of Mary Hospital will meet in the hospital conference room for the regular monthly meeting, Thursday at 8 p.m.

Gene Alfred, president, will conduct the usual business meeting, followed by the introduction of Mrs. Karl Ransom, women's auxiliary chairman for the hospital's annual benefit day at the harness races.

ways has the highest accident rate of any section of freeway in the county.

His several suggestions to remedy the situation included one to close the north-bound on-ramp to the Harbor Freeway north of Adams Boulevard.

Hahn charged the basic problem is "poor design poured into concrete."

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