

Assessor Says Exemption Claims Behind Last Year

Exemption claims this year are running slightly behind the total for last year at this time, County Assessor Philip E. Watson said today.

At the same time, Watson's office announced that in compliance with a recent District Court of Appeals ruling, all exemption claims are now open for public inspection.

To date approximately 115,000 veterans have filed for their property tax exemptions, some 35,000 less than had filed during the first four weeks of filing last year. Deadline for filing is 5 p.m. May 3.

Watson urged veterans to file early and to be sure to sign the claim, since it cannot be processed without a signature. Veterans who fail to sign their claims are being notified of their oversight. To date, about 1100 claims have been returned unsigned.

FIRST TIME claimants must apply in person at Room 225 of the Hall of Administration.

FOR CLASSIFIED CALL DA 5-6060

tion or at an Assessor's regional office, bringing with them their discharge papers and deed or other proof of ownership if they own real property. They must also comply with the ruling approved by the voters last November, which limits eligibility to veterans who were living in California on or before November 3, 1964 or who entered service from California.

Welfare exemption claims which must be filed by 5 p.m. April 1, are also running behind schedule, the Assessor's office reported.

THE OFFICE also announced that procedures have been established for public inspection of exemption claims in compliance with the recent Gallagher vs. Boller decision.

Anyone seeking to examine an exemption claim must apply at Room 225, Hall of Administration, and fill out a request slip for the claim in question. Photocopying by the public will be allowed with their own equipment in space provided.

If the viewer wishes to file a complaint, he will be asked to fill out a form specifying

Democratic Party Splits On Legislative Conflicts

By VINCENT THOMAS

Assemblyman, 68th District

The present session, as anticipated, promises to be one of the longest and most controversial in history. Already, major conflicts in the ranks of the majority party, the Democrats, have erupted with violence which put a new look on our deliberations.

As I write this, no major piece of legislation has been finally acted upon, and there are no signs of early action on any. This does not mean, however, that much work is not being done. The various committees of both houses

the complaint, a copy of which will be sent to the applicant for the exemption. If the claimant does not respond or if the matter cannot be resolved by the Department the matter will be referred to the District Attorney.

are vigorously engaged in studying the many bills before them. Now that the 30 day study period on most bills has elapsed, hearings on measures are being scheduled rapidly, and many bills will probably be reported to the floors of their respective houses before too long.

This activity does not mean, however, that an early adjournment may be expected. Two basic problems, the \$4.2 billion budget for 1965-66, with its accompanying tax raises, and the headache about the Supreme Court decision on reapportionment of the Senate—and maybe Assembly districts—are certain to lengthen our deliberations.

CONTROVERSIAL issues which will receive major attention, apart from the two I have mentioned above, include welfare, unemployment and disability insurance, and workman's compensation. Indications are already apparent that problems in these areas will be fiercely battled.

Proposed welfare legislation will center around im-

provements in the aid to needy children program, which was liberalized by 1963 changes to permit payments to family groups in which there is a resident male, who may not necessarily be the husband of the mother of the children involved. The change hit the counties so hard in the pocketbook that many were forced to take emergency measures to handle the situation.

IN THE TWO insurance programs, the evident need for higher taxes to support them is being vigorously opposed by demands for greater benefits. There is much argument over what should be done in both systems. The near bankruptcy of the state disability insurance fund is demanding immediate legislative attention, but Senate committee action which drastically altered an Assembly-passed bill only added more fuel to the fires of controversy.

Workmen's compensation differs from the other two programs in that the premi-

um rates are based on estimates of probable incur-rences, rather than on flat rates of taxes based on wages paid. Since the State Fund, which competes with private insurance carriers in the field, in effect sets premium rates by its own experience,

employers is fixed by the cost of the program to rates of benefits provided, as well as the cost of medical care. Benefits for temporary and permanent disability are a principal target for legislative attention at this session. It will not be long before

place in the upper division: Kurt Lohmann, first place; Richard Mitchell, second place; and John Johnson, third place, intermediate division; and Katherine Johnson, first place; Marsha Lohmann, second place; and Linda Peterson, third place, primary division.

Projects were demonstrated to the judges by a committee headed by Kathy Long, eighth grade, Assistant chairman of the science fair committee was Jacqueline Little, eighth grade. Seventh-graders Pamela Thompson and Timothy Fischer were co-chairmen.

bill start rolling out of committees onto the floors of our two houses. When they do, action in our formal sessions will be greatly stepped up, but the length of our session will probably be ultimately determined by the two major issues to which I have already referred.

Exhibit on Dyes Wins Science Fair Citation

Eighth graders John Everett and Lucille Hase were named top winners in science fair eliminations conducted this week at Carl Steele School, Torrance. Their projects will be entered in district finals at West High School in April.

Judging the 316 entries of students in kindergarten through eighth grade were William Scott and Henry Curtis of the Jet Propulsion Laboratories.

Other awards went to Kathy Thatcher, first place; Tom Fischer, second place; and Christine Lynch, third

Dominguez Area Road Work Set

Authorization of \$5,000 for street and roadway improvements in the Dominguez area has been reported by Supervisor Chairman Burton W. Chace.

Work will include sidewalks along Martin Street between 213th and 220th streets and new street paving on Dominguez Street in the vicinity of Bryant and Lambert avenues.

The street project will join with curbs and gutters recently installed by owners of adjacent properties.

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