

Supervisor Seeks End To Welfare Red Tape

There is far too much red tape in Los Angeles County's administration of welfare, according to county supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Hahn has complained that because of the multitude of forms and paperwork, the average social worker can spend only about one hour a year with each family on his caseload.

"It does not make much sense to have a college graduate sitting at a typewriter doing work that a well-

trained high school graduate can do," Hahn said.

"THE SOCIAL worker must be utilized as the public's representative in cutting down the welfare rolls through first-line rehabilitation, work-training, and counseling of families," he added.

Many of the clerical functions have now been transferred to approximately 400 welfare assistants in the Department of Public Social Services. Welfare assistants have two years of col-

lege training and are able to accomplish most of the checking necessary on welfare applications.

More than 90 per cent of the paperwork associated with the Old Age Security program have been transferred to welfare assistants since May 1, 1967.

THEY HAVE also been as-

signed to the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program for eligibility clearances, thereby relieving social workers to counsel and help train recipients.

In addition, a full review of all clerical operations in the Department is under way in an effort to eliminate much of the red tape.

most of the cumbersome paperwork is required by the state and federal governments which provide much of the funding for welfare.

Hahn once stacked all the federal and state regulations which govern a social worker's activities and came up with a pile 3½ feet high, weighing 116 pounds.

Other welfare forms in which red tape is being cut include Aid to the Disabled and records management.

Under a federal grant, the Department of Public Social Services will add 80 sub-professional positions as case aides, licensing aides, and homemaker aides to relieve the workload of social workers.

County Counsel Calls 42 Years 'Thrilling'

County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy will retire after 42 years of service to the people of Los Angeles County, December 1.

Kennedy, who will be 70 November 4, announced his retirement in a letter to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, chairman of the County Counsel's Department.

Hahn said of the veteran County attorney, "There is no finer civil servant in the United States than Hal Kennedy."

HE SAID that as the county's chief civil lawyer since September, 1945, Kennedy has pioneered much of the legislation in air pollution, water rights, and narcotics control.

An alumnus of the University of California at Berkeley,

Fireman Edwin H. Gardner, USN, son of Mrs. Elizabeth S. Gardner of 1625 Stand and Seaman David L. Kelly, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kelly of 302 Collamer Drive, Gardena, were crewmembers aboard the heavy cruiser USS St. Paul when the ship engaged in a gun battle with enemy shore batteries off the coast of Vietnam.

Kennedy was appointed a Deputy District Attorney in September, 1925, the day after he was admitted to practice law in California.

IN JANUARY, 1927, he transferred to the County Counsel's office, which then had a total of 15 lawyers.

Today, 55 lawyers serve in Kennedy's department.

In his letter to Hahn, Kennedy related the "thrilling experience" of serving as County Counsel longer than any other man, and said this service has "not only made me a livelihood, but has made me a life."



WHO DID IT? . . . Chapel Theatre will open Friday evening with its new production of "Night of January 16th" under the direction of Gladys Manu of Wilmington. Theatre-goers will comprise the jury during the production. Pictured in a scene from the play are (from left) Dick Jordahl, Bob Moser, and Rita Willens.

Audience to Act In Chapel Drama

The most exciting facet of the performances to be given of "Night of January 16th," opening Friday at Chapel Theatre, is that no one—including the actors—will know the ending of the play until the final scene.

The jury, those 12 men and women who must rule "guilty" or "not guilty" after the testimony has been heard, will be selected at random from among the audience each evening.

"Night of January 16th," a comedy-drama, will be directed by Gladys Manu of Wilmington and features Stephen Price of Torrance as District Attorney Flint; Cameron Cummins of Manhattan Beach as Defense Attorney Stevens; and Rita Willens of Palos Verdes as Karen, the woman accused of murder.

Others in the cast include Bob Moser of Los Angeles, the Judge; Linda Scarlino of Seal Beach, Nancy; Dick Jordahl of Torrance, Reagan; Sal Russo of San Pedro, Van Fleet; Florence Wagner of Long Beach, Magda; Sylvia Price of Torrance, Miss Junquist; Billie Galleran of Palos Verdes, Roberta; Ellen Vogl of Torrance, Jane Chandler; and Jim Vogl of Torrance, Mr. Whitfield.

Also featured are Bill Galleran of Palos Verdes, Officer Sweeney; Bill Burket of Torrance, the bailiff; Alice Collins and Connie Vaughn, secretaries; Judith Price, Mrs. Hutchins; Bob Woode, the coroner; Sam Mann, the policeman; and Enola Burket of Torrance, the police matron.

The courtroom set was designed and executed by Phyllis Palmer.

Reservations for the five weekend performances may be made at the Chapel box office. The theater is located at 4184 Pacific Coast Hwy.

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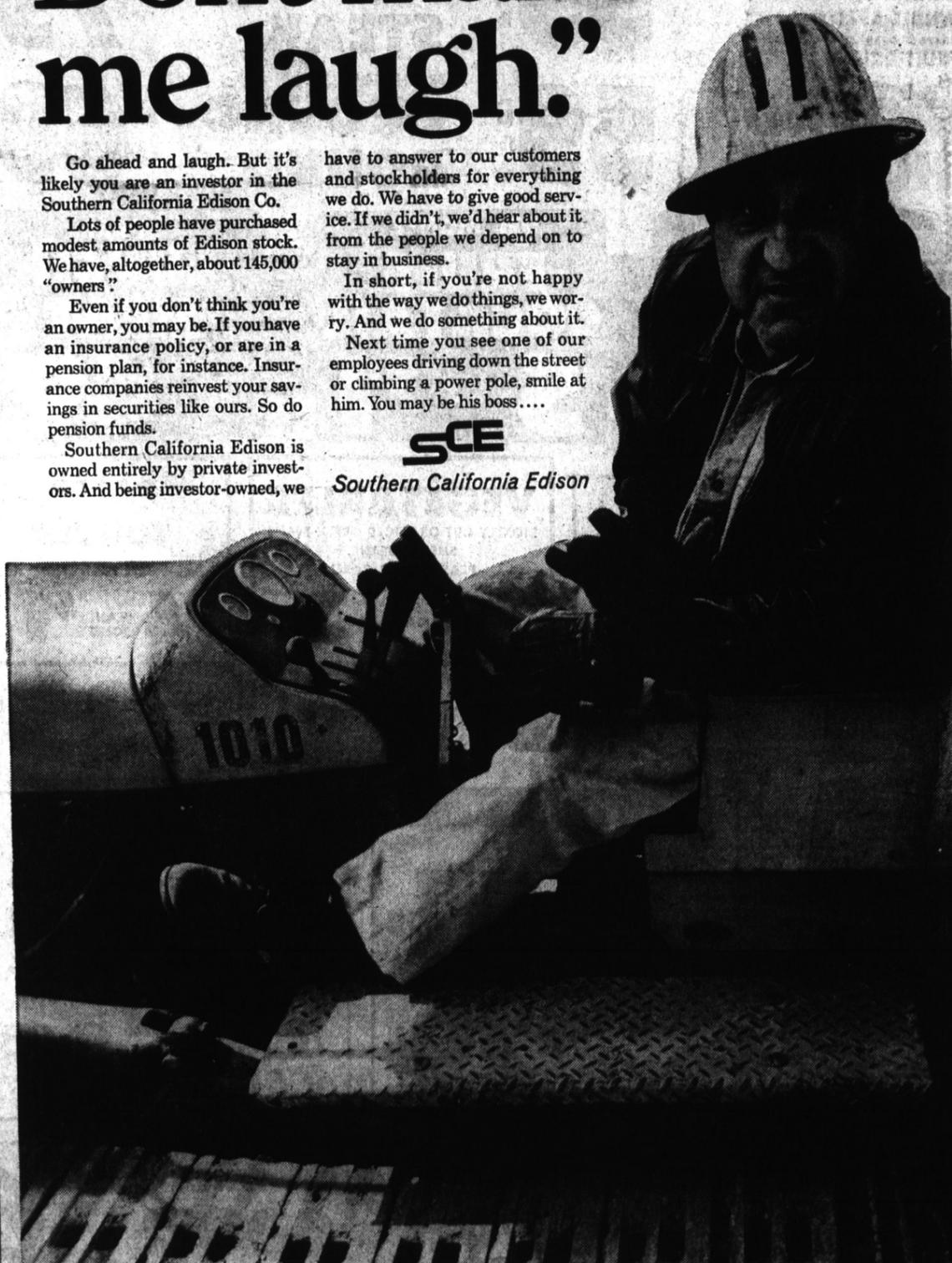
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