

CHP Retirement Plan Expanded

The California Highway Patrol retirement plan, adopted Jan. 21 by the Torrance City Council for city police and firemen, is similar in many respects to the 50/20 retirement plan approved last June.

However, the CHP plan encourages safety personnel to stay on the job until age 55 in order to collect 3/4 pay upon retirement. Mandatory retirement age is 60 under CHP terms.

The 50/20 plan encourages retirement at age 50 at half pay, making the mandatory age of retirement 65.

Other comparisons between the two plans are as follows:

EMPLOYEE COST:

- 50/20 — approximately 8 per cent to 13 per cent of salary, depending on age at entry;
- CHP — Nine per cent of salary, regardless of age at entry.

IMMEDIATE CITY COST:

- 50/20 — 20.5 per cent of salaries, based on 20 per cent of eligible employees retire at age 50;
- CHP — 23 per cent of salaries for first two years, followed by a rate adjustment based on an actuarial survey.

CITY COST (10 to 12 year projection):

- 50/20 — 25.5 per cent of salaries, if 30 per cent of the eligible employees retire at age 50;
- CHP — The state's estimate is 23 to 28.5 per cent depending on retirement age experience.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

- 50/20 — \$14,000 annually (could be higher if Torrance is the only city under the plan);
- CHP — \$326 (Existing rate of \$1 per employee).

THE TWO PLANS would cost the city roughly the same price, according to Richard DeArmitt, president of the Torrance Firefighters Association.

City Manager Edward J. Ferraro's report to the council indicates that cost estimates for the two plans are difficult to figure because the plans are so new. In the long run, however, it appears that the 50/20 plan would be less costly unless more than 30 per cent of the safety employees retire at the age of 50, Ferraro said.

The initial city cost is high for either plan because the employer must pay for all of the prior service credits of existing employees.

INITIAL COST of the 50/20 plan is estimated at \$226,700 whereas the initial cost of the CHP plan is estimated at \$302,000 the first year.

If the City Council chooses to pay for the plan through property tax increases, the initial finance plans would call for a 5 1/2-

cent increase for the 50/20 plan or a 7 1/2-cent increase for the CHP plan.

increase will be required in either case to pay cost of living increases for retired employees.

HOWEVER, in the case of the CHP plan, there would be an offsetting reduction of 3 cents in the property tax resulting from the housing differential salary and the carryover of this year's appropriation for the 50/20 plan. This would result in a 6-cent overall tax rate increase.

But the council is leaning toward an alternative utility users tax in lieu of the property tax increase. Final decision on the method of payment has been postponed to budget hearing time.

Stranded Car Spurs Arrests

Two Torrance youths were arrested on drug charges Saturday night after police caught them trying to drive through a flooded area at 232nd Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.

Police said they observed Gerald E. Dishman, 19, of 5512 Norton St., trying to push the car out of a pool of water. A second suspect, Roger A. Bresnan, 21, of 20026 Donora St., was passed out on the front seat of the car.

The area where the two had been driving was clearly marked off as a flooded, impassable section, police said. Two to five feet of water covered the area.

Both suspects were booked for being under the influence of drugs and possession of dangerous drugs. Police said they found a clear plastic bag containing 13 orange capsules inside the car. The capsules resemble the restricted drug, seconal.

Man Joins Church as Executive

The Church of God has launched plans for an enlarged program of urban ministries with the appointment of two new staff members by the national Board of Church Extension and Home Missions at general offices in Anderson, Ind.

Melvyn Hester, New York City, had been named the board's national consultant on urban ministries, while David Telfer, Chicago, becomes metropolitan mission coordinator.

Hester, native of Kingston, Jamaica, joins the board as its first full-time Negro executive. Both he and Telfer are graduates of Anderson College.

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Linguist Sets Address Here

Louis Hernandez, linguist for the Los Angeles County Schools, will address Torrance principals and administrators at a workshop on English to be held at the Torrance Recreation center at 9:30 a.m. today.

Topic of his talk will be "The Thrust of Sociolinguistics in Removing Barriers to Learning in the Schools." The talk will deal with closing the gap between the language students use and the language in which courses are taught.

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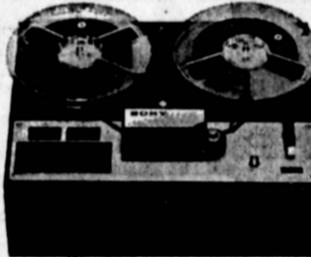
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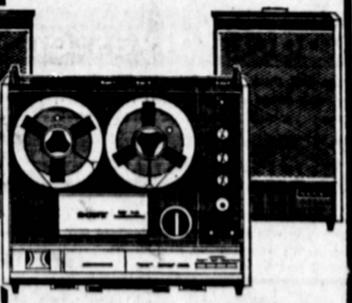
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