

Several Thousand in Area Getting Increased Benefit

Several thousand persons living in the Greater Torrance area are among the million people throughout the country who are receiving increases in the social security checks delivered to them this week, J. G. Bretherton, district manager of the Long Beach social security office, said yesterday.

Under amendments to the social security law, signed by President Kennedy on June 30, payments are increased for about one out of every four persons on the social security benefit rolls. Payments of those getting benefits at or near the minimum rate are boosted by amounts ranging up to \$7 and the benefits of widows getting payments based on their husbands' work are raised by about 10 per cent. Aged dependent widowers and some aged

dependent parents of deceased workers also get a 10 per cent increase.

UNDER THESE amendments:

(1) Retired men have the option of collecting reduced retirement benefits as early as age 62.

(2) Many older people who did not work for the length of time required under the old law will now be eligible for payments. The amount of work needed to get benefits has been reduced. However, at least a year and a half of work under social security is needed to qualify for payments. The surviving families of workers who died after June 1954 and who were eligible for benefits under the old law may now be eligible because of this change.

(3) THE AMOUNT that beneficiaries can earn and still collect a portion of their benefits for the year has been raised. As an example, a worker without dependents, eligible for a monthly old age benefit of \$120, can earn about \$2800 annually and still collect some of his benefits for the year. Many people, otherwise eligible for benefits, who have not yet applied because they are still working should find out now whether it is to their advantage to file an application.

(4) Some of the widows now getting social security benefits based on their own work under social security might be able to qualify for higher amounts by applying for the widow's benefits payable on their husband's social security earnings

records, because of the 10 per cent increase in widows' benefits.

City Bus Lines Extend Kettler Run to 238th

The Kettler Knolls line of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines will be extended beginning Monday to service Western Ave. between 235th and 238th Sts., and will operate along 238th St., Walnut Ave., Huber Ave., Middlebrook Rd., and Cabrillo Ave. to the Torrance Station.

New Water Co. Official Takes Utility Course

R. L. Anthony, recently named executive assistant at Southern California Water Co., is attending a 19-day utility management school being conducted by Stone and Webster Engineering, Inc., Sept. 11-29, in New York City.

Anthony's duties with the water company include acquisitions, extensions of contracts, advertising and promotion, municipal services, and handling of regulatory matters.

He resides at 4139 W. 177th Street.

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