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#44

FROM THE DESK OF PAUL STRASBAUGH

THE BIG NEWS AND ACTION this week was the settlement of the police problem. Apparently there was a lot of dissatisfaction with the settlement. In the short term, the situation will go along alright but, in the long term, there could, and probably will be, a lot of difficulty; such as, similar pressure and tactics from the FOP; some from the firemen; some from other municipal finance and/or Capital Bond Issues, using the settlement for political purposes, etc. Of course, from the outside looking in, it is easy to criticize. The City Manager was in a very difficult position. There is not much precedent for a "police strike" since it has only occurred a few times in the history of the nation. Nothing receives as much attention in a governmental sense. San Francisco will be long in recovering and I am afraid we will be doing the same. In the balance, Howard McMahan did as well as could be expected, for who can say what the alternative would have been. However, I do feel the FOP has lowered itself in the public's image. Immaturity and emotionalism do not bode well for law and order.

THIS COMING WEEK OUR CAMPAIGN STARTS with the kick-off of both Metro A and Metro B on Wednesday, November 5. Also, please keep your eyes on the New Member Division coming up December 2, 3 and 5. Each team will need 40 to 50 workers. The sooner we get it settled, the better off we will be. Remember, our foundation is in membership.

IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT FERDIE DEERING, long time employee of OPUBCO, will retire today. While we will express the Chamber's gratitude to Ferdie later on, it is well to note the contribution this remarkable man has made to the Chamber, the City, and the State, through his work in agriculture. We wish him well in his future work.

TO THE FOOTBALL BUFFS .. I hope your team wins at Stillwater tomorrow. The Cowboys are saying it could well be one of the more interesting afternoons this year .. The Sooners are ever confident ... HAPPY BEDLAM!