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341

## SM Police to Oppose Strike, Says Leader

San Mateo's police officers will meet at the police station at 9 a.m. Jan. 19 to decide strike policy, but a spokesman indicated today it is becoming apparent the police are opposed to any strike against the public or support of such a strike.

Blue collar workers employed by the City of San Mateo will meet to set a strike deadline after meeting with the city's

negotiator Tuesday night, Michael Baratz, chief negotiator for Local 715 of the Service Employees International Union said last week.

The blue collar workers could walk out as early as Wednesday.

The local voted to walk out at a meeting held last Thursday.

John Pico, San Mateo attorney retained to represent the San Mateo Police Officers Association, said the police officers have talked it over and are very concerned about the lack of

(See Page 8, Column 1)

## Police

(Continued from Page 1)  
protection citizens of San Mateo would have should any other agency attempt to enforce the law here.

The police are aware of Gov. Edmund G. Brown's move to train National Guardsmen to move in, Pico said, and feel that the guardsmen would not know the city well enough nor its people well enough to protect the public.

"They feel that there are other ways to work things out," Pico said.

The San Mateo police contract will come up this summer, the attorney said, and what the police would like to do is to have a representative of the police department sit down with the city council or manager and bring in the police package.

Unless the city decided to bring in a high-priced "expert" the police would prefer to just work it out themselves, he said.

Pico noted that while other employes struck a year ago, the police did not go on strike.

He also noted that a recent city planning and research department study showed that the San Mateo police officers are generally against strikes of this sort.

"Ninety-eight per cent of the officers said public welfare, not money, is their concern."

Pico was appointed by a unanimous vote of the police officers association Jan. 5.