

# GRASSROOTS

A Berkeley Community Newspaper

Vol. I, No. 1 July 1, 1972

## RECYCLING CENTER FUNDED AT LAST!!



In one of the most-bizarre votes in a long history of strange voting on the present Berkeley City Council, the Council voted unanimously (Widener absent), June 27, to fund a grant of a \$66,230 solid waste disposal program to two Berkeley groups, the Center for Environmental Symbiotics and the Ecology Center.

The vote ended a scenario that began 10 months ago, when a proposal was submitted to the Council by Ecology Action, which included plans for city support of three recycling centers, and an educational program.

The city was asked to provide \$66,230 as matching funds for a federal grant for a solid waste demonstration project. But, if the federal grant was lost, the city could support a less ambitious program with the city as sole sponsor. The grant was to be administered by the Ecology Center, a non-profit corporation, which had administered a previous federal grant to Ecology Action.

Ecology Action spent the next several months talking to council members and asking their

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## RENT CONTROL

Art Goldberg

Many people were surprised the Rent Control Charter Amendment was passed by Berkeley voters on June 6, by a margin of over 2,400 votes.

With memories of the 2 to 1 defeat suffered by the Community Control of Police charter amendment in April 1971, and forced to fight against an expensive scare campaign waged by the realtors and their front groups, there was not much optimism among Fair Rent Committee members on election night, although they all felt that the vote would be close.

Why did Community Control of Police fail by such a large margin--about 33,000 to 16,500, and Rent Control pass by a 27,565 to 25,162 plurality? There are many answers.

For one thing, more than sixty percent of Berkeley residents are renters, and no matter what arguments opponents of rent control might raise, most tenants probably concluded that rent control was in their best interests.

Leafletting at the Shattuck Co-op, I noticed that support for rent control was expressed by young people, blacks, old people, and even middle class people who seemed to live in or close to the hills.

It also seems obvious that Rent Control was far less susceptible to a scare campaign than was Community Control of Police. The Fair Rent Committee, in drawing up the charter amendment strove to avoid the pitfalls of

the April 1971 Police Control campaign.

The aim was to come up with a document which could not be easily picked apart and attacked, which could appeal to as broad a segment of the community as possible, yet remain a strong, but reasonable pro-

posal.

From the outset the Fair Rent Committee sought to involve community groups. There were a great many expressions of support from the white community, but little desire to participate in drawing up the amendment, so the Committee worked closely with attorneys and held community meetings to solicit changes.

The Committee also saw the necessity of working closely with the black community. Unfortunately, the FRC's intentions were better than its actions. The Committee contacted the Black Caucus, but failed to vigorously seek out opinions from other groups in the black community.

This laid the basis for the first charge against rent control: that the black community was not consulted. In truth, certain people in the black community were consulted, but a large cross-section of the black community was not.

The FRC was able to overcome this initial mistake, however, by securing the endorsements of Congressman Ron Dellums, Supervisorial Candidate Mike Jones, Assemblyman John Miller, the Black Caucus, and the Black Panther Party.

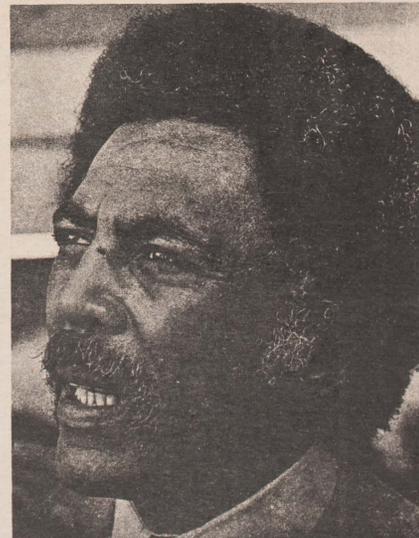
The realtors, feeling that they could turn the black community against rent control the same way they did against community control of police, tried to tie the Fair Rent Committee to the backers of what they called the "segregationist" police amendment.

In two city-wide mailings, an and a third mailer which went to about half the community but was concentrated in the campus areas, the realtors tried to scare people with the following arguments:

They said that rent control

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## DELLUMS WINS, FACES NEXT TEST IN NOVEMBER



Ron Dellums, seeking reelection in a newly expanded and somewhat more white and conservative district, won handily in his Democratic Party primary contest. The primary results were very pleasing

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# GRASSROOTS

GRASSROOTS --PUBLISHED ONCE MONTHLY--  
1708B GROVE STREET, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA,  
94709--TELEPHONE:845-6906--ENTERED AS  
SECOND-CLASS MATTER AT BERKELEY, CALIF.

The first issue of Grassroots was created by the following collective:

Selina Bendix	Dave Lomba
Esther Brennard	Peggy Gannon
Carolyn Fergoda	Andree Rohlfling
Tom Fergoda	Hal Rohlfling
Foster Foreman	Kathy Rhodes
Paul Foreman	Marilyn McGregor
Grace Gildersleve	Betsy Stadler
Art Goldberg	Nancy Sellers
Joe Hancock	Ying Kelly

## What Is Grassroots ?

Unless a newspaper serves its community it will fail. The Berkeley left community, on which the Berkeley Monitor and Tribe depended, no longer saw the relevance of either newspaper and therefore did not expend sufficient energy to keep them functioning.

The Monitor was a victim of the large political changes that took place in Berkeley during and following the 1971 municipal elections. The Berkeley Coalition became part of the April Coalition and later...the Coalition. The Monitor editorial staff, for the most part, antedated these organizational changes and did not become involved in the processes and thinking that resulted from them. Instead of capitalizing on the election of the new city council and school board members, the staff only made weak efforts to keep abreast of the political side of issues. Events of council and school board meetings were usually well covered, certainly more thoroughly than in the Berkeley daily. However, the isolation from radical community thinking was reflected in the paper.

The founders of the Monitor hoped to eventually be independent of the Coalition and to establish a traditional left-liberal journal. This rigid direction toward traditional journalism was a factor in the death of the paper. Because of its non-advocate position there were fewer people willing to work on its publication. In fact, it became a liability. Thus the Monitor died.

Grassroots was conceived by a group of Coalition people as an unabashedly political newspaper, communicating the political doings of the Coalition and of Berkeley government. It will also give background and analysis of issues not available through other media. It belongs to the radical community who will be responsible for its publication. We conceive of Grassroots as being the news-organ of the Coalition. As such it will be political and serve the Berkeley left as an aggressive instrument for radical change, and as a means of communication and information sharing between ourselves.

While Grassroots is learning the ropes it will be published monthly. The organizers want the paper to evolve slowly during the summer when fewer people are around. The big push will come in the fall. But we need involvement now. People who can commit themselves to work on layout, distribution, ad sales, photography, graphics, or whatever skills that might be useful in a newspaper are needed and should let Grassroots know.

## SUBSCRIBE

Send \$5.00 for one year, and the paper will be mailed to your doorstep. Any larger donation will be appreciated.

Those of us broke and unemployed (or on strike), can always read the latest issue at the Coalition office.  
1708B Grove Street, Berkeley 94709

Can you help with distribution? If you like this Grassroots, and would distribute a dozen copies to your neighbors and friends or fellow workers, send in this box to GRASSROOTS, at the above address.

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STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

## The Coalition -- alive this summer

The Coalition which elected Loni Hancock has now demonstrated that it has a majority of voter allegiance in this city: with the passage of the Rent Control initiative, we can now clearly see that radical politics in Berkeley is here to stay. Can we meet the challenge? More significantly--and less rhetorically--how will we meet the challenge.

With this issue of our phoenix-like Grassroots, at least one small band of Berkeley radicals are attempting one avenue, one that has been sadly lagging and finally lacking altogether during the past few months. The intention of this group is to commit the paper more firmly to our Coalition politics, and to help provide the news and communication we need.

Potluck Dinner On Friday, July 7th, Coalition members have the opportunity to meet these individuals and to discover how they can become involved in Grassroots at the monthly potluck, which will be held at Live Oak Park, beginning at 6:30 p.m. (A-D & S-Z casserole; E-H salad, I-R Dessert; \$1.00 contribution asked to cover expenses).

Office News During the past few months, the Women's Office Collective has attempted to answer other needs of our Coalition. Yin Ying Lee Kelley has spearheaded the efforts of the American Reparations Committee; Fran Benveniste singlehandedly organized our precinct workers for Dellums and provided the critical coordination for precinct work with the campaigns of other candidates for national and state offices; Esther Brennard has continued to

keep all of our lists up to date (probably one of the most thankless of all tasks); Grace Gildersleeve has kept the finances in order (another onerous task); and Lucille Birnbaum has been instrumental in furthering the new Facilitating Committee of the Coalition.

Facilitating Committee In its initial two meetings, the Facilitating Committee drew participation from a wider variety of groups than we have thus far experienced since the city elections. Unfortunately, the last meeting was far less successful. And although we can blame this failure on inadequate notice as well as proximity of the time to the primary, nonetheless we must not allow ourselves the luxury of resting on our laurels or the convenience of allowing "others" (such as the Women's Office Collective) to do our job for us. Loni's office has provided the means for radical community groups to push their programs on the Council. But all of us have an obligation to join together

in coalition to begin the task of preparing for next April's election. Each group has its interest; each neighborhood has its needs, but we will not realize any of these goals unless we join in formulating them as a Coalition. With the summer doldrums upon us, it is unrealistic to assume that we will begin any concerted planning. Therefore we will not schedule another Facilitating Committee meeting until early September (unless, of course, someone wants to undertake the task of calling it, which they can do simply by calling a member of the Women's Office Collective to find out what is involved in so doing. Certainly any initiative of this sort is more than welcome).

Office Crisis Finally, we have yet another opportunity for change. Our landlord has indicated that he will not renew our lease, which expires Sept. 30th, and in fact asked in May that we vacate as soon as possible. The Women's Office Collective (WOC) decided that we could not possibly leave until July 31st, and in the meantime we would begin the painful process of trying to locate new office space, which we hope to find by the end of September. We want to use this chance to find a good, multi-purpose office which can serve the needs of the whole coalition. Meanwhile, we will use the pledge money to help Grassroots get off the ground. Should anyone know of available space, please call either Grace Gildersleeve (526-4481) or Nancy Sellers (841-3006).

Flea Market As an extension of our efforts to help Grassroots, Loni, and to provide money for the new office, the WOC has obtained three booths at the Telegraph Ave. Co-op Flea Market of July 4th, and we hope Coalition members will bring useable, saleable articles (PLEASE no clothing) to the booths on the 4th and that you will come down then to see if there is anything you can purchase.

We now have a full two months before us to formulate our ideas on the future of coalition politics. In September we want to see all of us come together to begin the process of meshing these plans. The future, for once, is quite literally ours.

We hope to see all of you then refreshed, renewed, and prepared --and we hope also to have you meanwhile continue your financial support, and to see you at the Potlucks and on Independence Day. Help us make Berkeley the one city that is free.

Nancy Sellers for  
The Women's Office Collective

# CHARTER

## REVIEW

Approximately two months ago, the City Council appointed the Berkeley Charter Review Committee. The committee is charged with formulating a new city charter which will better meet the needs of Berkeley citizens.

Thus far, the Charter Review Committee, composed of 56 members, have set basic ground rules for operation and studied in great detail the present city Charter at their Monday night meetings at City Hall.

The next major item of business for the committee is coming up shortly. They are deciding on their overall approach to charter review.

There are two major positions. One idea is for the committee, as a whole, or through subcommittees, to study alternative forms of government, then to see how other forms may fit in Berkeley. The alternative, is to study in some depth how this city operates: what functions operate efficiently and fulfill the needs of the citizens and what aspects are unresponsive to our desires or needs. With this information in hand, they could then seek to synthesize a form of government which would best fulfill our needs.

### "Unofficial" Groups

A few of those on the Charter Committee, along with about 10 other people, have organized into a community group, whose aim is to facilitate neighborhood participation in charter review.

We have been meeting weekly both for educational and discussion sessions.

We are now working on putting together information of

general interest related to Charter Review.

We are looking into the origins of the Council-Manager form of Government in Berkeley, as well as nationally, and doing some in depth study of the Berkeley Charter.

We are available to speak and act as a source of information to community groups. We would also like to help facilitate the generation of neighborhood groups.

Through neighborhood discussions it is hoped that the best solutions to Berkeley's many problems can be found.

For further information, look to Grassroots, or call Joel at Loni's Office - 841-0370. (Leave message if necessary).

## COUNCIL'S DILEMMA--

### Demand For City Funds Increase

The city of Berkeley faces a budget crisis this year of even more spectacular proportions than previous year's crises. If the council does not work strenuously to reduce its \$27 million budget, Berkeley residents face a 42¢ (per \$100 assessed evaluation) increase in their city property taxes; this is in addition to the probable increases in property taxes from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors or the Berkeley School Board.

This increase does not include any extra money for the social programs and services which desperately need funds from the city, nor does it include many large, obvious, easily deleted chunks of money that the Council can cut. The Council must cut \$28,618 from the budget for each 1¢ it wishes to cut from the tax rolls.

The projected increases stem from two major areas. The first item is salary increases. The council is in the midst of negotiations with city unions, so the effect of salary increases on the tax rolls must remain conjecture. However, because 70-80% of the city's budget is for salaries, a cost of living raise of 5% would bring an extra 26¢ to the property tax. The other major increase has come from the Capital Improvements budget. In the Council's efforts last year to hold down the property tax rate, they cut out most of the monies allotted to Capital Improvements. This year's Capital Improvements budget includes money for items such as the acquisition and development of mini-parks in five areas of

the city, with the city money used as matching funds for a federal grant to which the Council has committed itself. Another Capital Improvement item requested is the funding for a recreation building in James Kenney Park in West Berkeley which the city has been postponing for 10 years.

In an organization that is service oriented, such as the city, and in which such a large percent of the budget is devoted to salaries, the most direct way to save money is through personnel cuts. This year even the City Manager's budget contains a reduction of 19.4 people of which 13 come from the police department. Only 3.4 new positions have been proposed. Thus, even in this area some of the easily cut items have already been pared down by the City Manager.

The City Council has been hearing presentations by the city staff and community organizations relating to the budget several times a week during most of the month of June. There have been a record number of presentations by both groups and also in the amount of money requested from the Council by the community (see adjoining box). So far the Council has taken very few votes on the budget. It still remains to be seen how they will work out the tremendous budgetary problems still facing them and how they will resolve the conflict between the community's needs for more services to be funded by the city with everyone's desire to hold the already intolerably high property tax to the present rate.

### Community Groups Requesting Council Funds, Fiscal Year 1973

Emergency Food Project	18,132
Black Panther Party Free Food Program	38,400
Under 18 Youth Hostel	6,000
Over 18 Youth Hostel	7,370
Women's Refuge Center	4,995
Coffee Cellar	4,790
Berkeley Free Clinic	30,000
Women's Health Collective	22,378
George Jackson People's Free Health Clinic	98,000
West Berkeley Free Clinic	50,000
Planning Commission (seed money for small community projects)	12,000
Affirmative Action	75,000
Child Care	30,000
Health nurses (reinstating)	29,000
Mayor and Council staff	77,536
Rent Control	100,000
TOTAL (for a 21¢ tax increase)	\$ 603,601

## FLY ON THE WALL

Berkeley's Neanderthals (Berkeley Citizens United) included an intriguing rumor about Borden Price in their June issue of the *BCU Bulletin*. They ask, "does his having dinner at Loni Hancock's home three nights running last month have anything to do with his recent swerve to the left...?" When questioned about this, Loni laughingly denied the rumor but said, "Borden Price is a charming person, perhaps I should invite him for dinner." The story must have been started by the paranoid Berkeley Right, apparently because they disagree with several of Price's votes.

A motion of the June 20 Council meeting provoked some curious antics. Hancock moved to rescind council approval of the application to HUD for third year funding of that arch-boondoggle, the West Berkeley Industrial Park, until after a public study session on the Payne-Maxie Report regarding the feasibility of the Park. (The Payne-Maxie Report was commissioned by the Council in February to provide a basis for council action. The council had not acted until recently on third year funding for the industrial park on the grounds that the P-M Report was not completed. The Report was released about 6 weeks ago; it recommended against the present industrial park plan. Two weeks ago the council voted to submit the third year application for the park to HUD unchanged although the P-M Report had not been evaluated and the Mayor assured the council that there was no deadline requirement to meet. As Loni Hancock explained, the effect was to waste the \$5,000 of the taxpayers' money, that went into the Report and immediately to threaten the Oceanview community with demolition.) After some discussion but before the motion came to a vote, Hone, McLaren, and Sweeney discretely left the meeting, presumably going 'backstage' for a cup of coffee (Kallgren was absent). When it was time to vote the seated council people called out several times, "Yoo-hoo out there, it is time to vote." No response. The seated members voted. The motion lost with Borden Price saying, "let the record show that I stood my ground and voted no". It would have been more realistic if the vote were tallied as follows: Bailey, yes; Hancock, yes; Hone, hiding; Kallgren, absent; McLaren, hiding; Price, no; Simmons, yes; Sweeney, hiding; Widener, yes.

Did Councilman Bailey get in on the wrong side of the chair at the June 21 council meeting on affirmative action? After castigating Hancock because of differences of opinion on procedures for the hearing of staff presentations on the budget, he said that if Hancock disagreed with him, it called into question the basis of coalition politics. He then refused to vote on the final version of the Ecology Action contract on solid waste management although he had agreed to it just the day before (see accompanying story on page 1). When the first item of business concerning the affirmative action proposal was debated he attacked Kallgren regarding a question about the 2-year college requirement for police, calling Kallgren a 'buffoon' and implying he was a racist for asking the question. Kallgren, noting that Bailey seemed more intent on picking fights with people than dealing with business, left the meeting. The meeting was adjourned then for lack of a quorum. In the meantime we still do not have an affirmative action program.

The appointment of radical CO-OP board director Cheri Gaines as temporary city attorney was a welcome and pleasant surprise. Gaines is currently a member of the interviewing committee searching for a city attorney, which, for obvious reasons, bars her from keeping the job on a permanent basis. It is understood that Gaines, who teaches law at the University of San Francisco, does not want the job too long, however.



## REPARATIONS

You want to be careful of instant historiography. Alvin Toffler, the "Future Shock" man, says the only constant in today's world is transience--hula hoops, Twiggy, rent-a-cars--you know. But then there's the war. Presidents come and Presidents go, the peace movement shifts from dissent to resistance and back again, but the war like an ancient, corrupt blood-line still solemnly produces, year in and year out, its ghastly offspring.

The New York legislature, with a healthy assist from the dependable sexism of the left-liberal establishment, has just squeezed Bella Abzug out of Congress. The Air Force fires a full general for doing in March what the President (in quest of peace, to be sure) orders done in May. We are now bombing the flood control and irrigation systems of North Vietnam. We hanged German officers in 1945 for doing exactly that, no more.

Yes, well, what next? The answer, for a growing number of us, is to make as best we can a separate peace with the Vietnamese people; it must go beyond the formalities of the People's Peace Treaty to establish a program of reparations for war damage. The American Reparations Committee, formed here last winter, has now raised almost \$10,000 toward such a program. And, perhaps as important, it has tapped into a building movement of similar activity throughout the country.

The local effort went into high gear after Nixon's escalation speech of May 8. The Committee's original plans had called for the Berkeley City Council to adopt a program of peace with the Vietnamese people, allocate \$1000 toward a reparations fund and set up a pipeline for more money and aid. In the wake of the Nixon speech, and before some 3500 outraged citizens, the Council turned down the ARC proposal by a 5-4 vote.

Events immediately afterward tended to be drowned out by the sound of breaking glass. but by the end of that second week of May, the ARC had raised upwards of \$3000 and was beginning to spread out to neighboring communities like Davis, San Francisco, and Santa Barbara. The reparations idea seemed to be one whose time had come.

The campaign has taken a new turn since a team of doctors from the Medical Committee for Human Rights, bound for Hanoi with money and medical supplies, was turned back to Vientiane. DRV representatives explained that U.S. bombing was now so intense that the team's personal safety could not be guaranteed. They added that the most useful form of aid at this point would be, not cash, but medical supplies, and offered to furnish a "shopping list" of the items most badly needed. Cont. on page 5

(Cont. from page 4)

As of now, the Reparations Committee is working with the MCHR to help fill this shopping list. Some fifty MCHR chapters nationwide will be enlisted in this effort; the ARC itself, while maintaining its local identity, is reaching out to like-minded groups (for example, a query has come in from Tempe, Arizona) interested in starting to rebuild the country our government has nearly destroyed.

"The news blackout about the war is back in force," said ARC spokeswoman Ying Kelley recently. "The money we're raising is important but incidental to raising the issue of war crimes, despite the government's attempt to blind us to it."

The reparations idea goes beyond liberal notions of *wergild* conscience-money paid to the aggrieved to relieve the guilt of the aggressor. Reparations, after all, are traditionally exacted of the defeated belligerent by the victor; and they are traditionally paid by one state to another. The ARC program is significant, then, because it bypasses our war-mad state to make peace on behalf of the American people to the people of Vietnam, and because it acknowledges, at least by implication, what Nicholas von Hoffman has written: that the only plausible end to the war, barring a drastic change in Washington's policies, is for the DRV and PRG forces to defeat the US decisively.

It's a big step, but it has to be taken. In World War I, German and Russian troops threw down their weapons and "fraternized"--made their own peace in the trenches, repudiating the imperialist war aims of their governments. Those of us who are tired of beseeching a deaf Administration, who cannot wait until the election knowing that the murder goes on every day, are repudiating our imperialist government, making our own peace.

# 1st Amendment Row at BHS

Constitutional Law is a course taught at Berkeley High School by David Eichorn, whom many students and parents consider to be one of Berkeley High School's most interesting teachers. The class studies court cases, visits courtrooms, and holds mock trials. Last semester, the class had an unexpected opportunity to learn about the hazards of using one's constitutional rights.

In the course of coverage of First Amendment provisions, the class discusses obscenity. There isn't time for the class to read *Fanny Hill* or *Lady Chatterly's Lover* and, as Eichorn says, "Books aren't being busted in the Bay Area, films are." So Eichorn assembled about twenty minutes worth of "pornographic" movies, none of which have been ruled legally obscene, including a silent stag from the twenties and a recent film with a much-discussed Muni Bus sequence, for his classes to use as a basis for discussion of obscenity law.

This did not happen just now; the films were used last year with the full knowledge and permission of principal Clifford Wong. No student had to watch the films, and parental permission was required for students under 18. This year, of 87 students under 18, 9 did not see the films for various reasons.

The students who watched the films reacted variably, but generally felt that they were a valid educational experience. The students wanted to be trusted to be mature enough to make personal value judgements. They analyzed the films according to the legal standards they had been studying (community standards, redeeming value, etc.) and in some cases went beyond this to analysis of sexist stereotypes. Some of them felt that a meaningful discussion of

limitations on freedom of speech could not be held in the absence of factual information about the nature of challenged materials. Others were annoyed that the unexpected publicity had upset the class schedule and caused an undue amount of time to be spent on one part of the legal curriculum.

Last year, after seeing the movies, the students held a mock trial of Eichorn on charges of obscenity and contributing to the delinquency of a minor and acquitted him of both charges.

Why did the whole matter suddenly become a public issue during the second year of approved use of these materials? One parent decided that he had the right to impose his standards of morality upon the community and managed to get onto the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle.

Those of us who remember the "Rat Pack" student newspaper incident at BHS two years ago know that principal Clifford Wong does not think that the First Amendment applies at BHS, so we were not surprised when he panicked and banned the films from further classroom use after approving them for two years. We also remember that superintendent Foster supported Wong last time, and were not surprised that Foster upheld Wong again, without availing himself of an opportunity to see the films.

A Berkeley police officer tried to get the names and addresses of the students who saw the films, but did not succeed. This officer spends a lot of time on the BHS campus. What sort of rapport do you suppose he has with the students?

School Board Member Louise Stoll, who has seen the films, supports the right of Eichorn to use whatever materials he deems appropriate in his classroom and feels that the Board should hold a workshop to discuss the implementation of the First Amendment in Berkeley Schools. The School Board has received a report from Superintendent Foster on Wong's banning of the movies--over Stoll's objection. There has been no official Board action on the matter so far.

Curiously enough, unlike a student's rights to freedom of press and speech, which have been affirmed by Supreme Court decisions, the rights of a teacher in the classroom have never been clearly spelled out. There does not seem to be any justification, however, for holding that a teacher's First Amendment rights end at his classroom door.

Your reporter has seen the movies, by the way, and found them variously funny or boring, and altogether rather insignificant in the face of real issues the community needs to be concerned with.

Selina Bendix

## SAVE THANH HOA Hospital OFFICIAL COLLECTOR

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# Berkeley's Child Care Nightmare

by Mary Millman and Sheila Daar

"The babysitter locked the kids out in order to keep the house clean. We found out when they set fire to a toolshed..."

from Care For Our Children (Berkeley), 1970

Mae-Ann Thompson works full time as a secretary and is the sole support of a 2 1/2 year-old daughter. Frustrated by the difficulties of finding reliable, loving babysitters and recognizing her child's increasing need for sustained learning experiences and relationships with other children, Ms. Thompson seeks a child care center which can meet her daughter's needs.

After much searching, she finds that there are only four full-day care center programs for children under three in the entire city--three of which are far beyond her financial means. And though the fourth, the Berkeley Unified School District's Children Center program is limited to low-income families and charges fees on a sliding scale, there is a waiting list of over 600 children for enrollment. With no alternative available, Ms. Thompson must continue entrusting the care and nurturing of her daughter each week day to the often haphazard and custodial charge of one babysitter or another.

The inability of this parent to find or afford a high quality group care program for her child is hardly atypical. A study of child care needs in Berkeley published in 1970 (and updated by the new census figures) revealed that of the 10,000 children in Berkeley in need of some form of child care, there were places for only 2,000 of them in centers or after-school programs. The chronic nature of this shortage is underscored by the sorry fact that between 1967 (when what was to become the City-sanctioned Committee on Child Care was first stirring) and January 1970, there was a net increase of SIX SPACES for children in licensed centers in Berkeley.

Dismal as this statistic is, it at least represents a degree of momentum in the creation of direct care for children that is lacking to date in the Cities' "official" child care agency, the Berkeley Child Care Development Council (BCCDC) and its administrative arm, the Office of Community Child Care.

Established on the recommendation of Care For Our Children (the \$10,000 report on Berkeley's child care needs published in 1970 by P.T. and T.A. Corp.), the BCCDC was to be one of many federally-sponsored 4-C's councils charged with the coordination and development of child care services in local communities. It was widely hoped among the citizen's committee which

worked on the report that such an organization in Berkeley would provide aggressive advocacy for child care and would also unravel and centralize the maze of day care funding possibilities. The result was to have been the development of programs in areas where the need was great and the services non-existent or woefully deficient.

Desireable as this scenario may have appeared, in fact the City of Berkeley's acceptance of the 4-C's model (and hence the development of the BCCDC and the Office of Community Child Care) turned out to be a landmark in the municipal effort to sidestep the problem of child care while giving the appearance of taking it seriously. Care For Our Children clearly delineated thousands of unmet day care needs and yet the city chose to implement a federal program emphasizing coordination!

## The BCCDC in Berkeley

Though the relationship between the BCCDC, its Office and the City has never clearly been drawn, the City and School District have together invested nearly \$65,000 in the BCCDC and its Office. It is fair to ask what the City has derived in return for this investment. Unfortunately the answer is not child care programs for its children. Instead, the city now has a cumbersome 29-member coordinating and policy-making council (BCCDC) and the Office of Community Child Care.

In concept the Council is a broadly-based community organization designed to bring together providers of child care services, representatives of agencies related to child care, and parent users and potential parent users of child care (this last group comprising 51% of the Council). The purpose of this coalition was to coordinate existing child care services and to develop needed services according to a comprehensive understanding of Berkeley's needs.

Despite the sincere commitment of most of its members to child care, the BCCDC has exhibited ineptitude and torpor to a truly amazing degree. It may categorically be said that no coordination has resulted and no new services have been added to the community as a direct result of the BCCDC's efforts.

The Council did inherit two direct-service programs from the Child Care Committee's recommendations. The Columbus After School Program has survived by the wits and dedication of its director on a bare-bones \$5,000 annual budget. The sick Child Program was allowed to dwindle and languish due to the neglect of the Public Health Department which had direct charge of the service. The BCCDC was apparently unable or unwilling to intervene to prevent the decline

of this critically needed service.

With respect to coordination, the failure is even more glaring. Since the BCCDC had no funds of its own for direct child care services, its logical sphere of activity ought to have been the coordination and facilitation of programs which did possess funding potential for day care. Yet the BCCDC has exerted no influence whatever upon the Model Cities Program which for the past year has had earmarked over \$125,000 for day care (potentially about \$350,000 since Model Cities money may be used as seed money to capture matching federal funds). The Model Cities day care money has yet to result in any programs, nor is there any mechanism underway for the BCCDC and Model Cities to collaborate on a rational plan for the expenditure of the money.

Another major source of funds to help alleviate Berkeley's child care crisis is the local CEO program, the Berkeley Community Development Council (BCDC). Through BCDC, federal funds are available for, among other things, renovation and construction of day care sites (sites are one of the largest problems in establishing centers), yet the potential of BCDC is largely unknown to the BCCDC and again, there is no mechanism established to collaborate with this body. The School District's plans for the expansion of its pre-school programs by over 100 places in 1972 have been conceived without any reference to the BCCDC nor has the Office attempted to participate in the planning.

## Bureaucracy Pre-empts

The BCCDC spent the first year of its existence haggling over structural questions relevant to its incorporation (only completed after the first of this year) and furnishing the Office of Community Child Care. Since then new problems have arisen which have rent the organization and further disabled it from serving the purposes for which it was established.

The selection of an Acting Director of questionable competence resulted both in demoralization of the recently-augmented office staff and conflict with members of the BCCDC over who was to have ultimate responsibility for the success of the total organization. These tensions were heightened when the City Council, irked at the BCCDC's poor record, asked that the BCCDC and its Office prepare a comprehensive plan for the development of child care for presentation to the City Council during its budget hearings in June.

Forced to come to grips with its responsibilities for developing direct services to children (and, implicitly, to assess the

reasons for its failure to produce such services during the past 14 months), the BCCDC dissolved into bitter infighting, particularly over budget priorities in the comprehensive plan: one faction saw a more expensive and more bureaucratic office structure as necessary to the development of child care services; the other group was less sanguine about the already poor performance of the Office and instead of beefing up the staff, wanted the bulk of any city money to go directly to funding new centers.

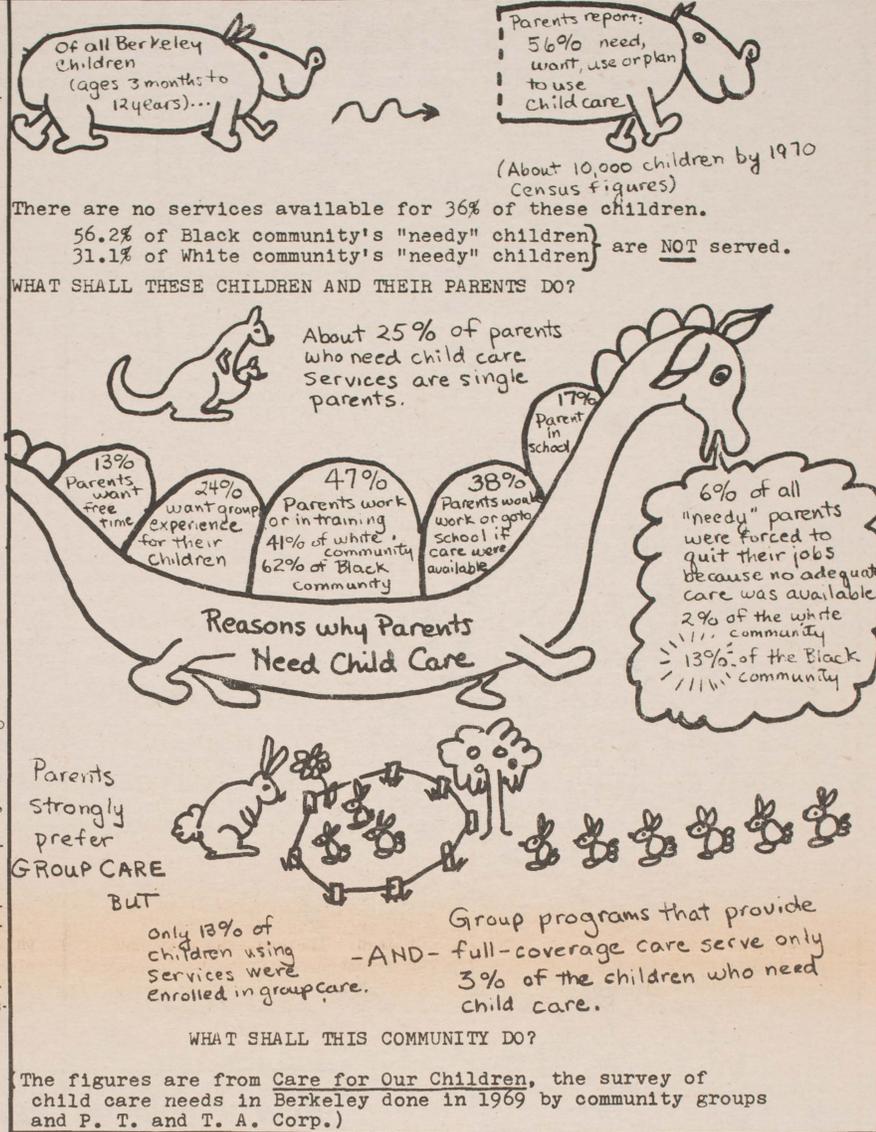
The battles over the comprehensive plan demonstrated the inability of the Acting Director of the Office to cooperate with the Council to produce the plan, an appalling lack of understanding of the basic realities of day care funding and operation on everyone's part, and the utter breakdown of the organization as a forum for various community views and interests to work together on a common basis.

Despite these severe conflicts, the BCCDC is pulling together a comprehensive plan and budget request to present to the City and the School Board during their respective budget sessions. The plan will contain a request for the expanded, more bureaucratic office. Instead of money committed to specific child care proposals already prepared by community groups, the direct services portion of the plan will merely request fixed sums for certain categories of child care (i.e.: drop-in, emergency, full-day, etc.), the monies to be dispersed by the BCCDC to specific programs at some point in the future.

It should be noted that to date not a single guideline for the equitable and rational distribution of City and School District monies has emerged from the BCCDC to insure the orderly flow of those monies into actual programs. What is in some ways even more appalling is the total lack of consensus and discussion within the BCCDC about standards and quality of programs to be funded.

Assuming that some money will be allocated to the BCCDC by the City and School District, the community will be in the ironic position of paying for yet another agency and another constellation of political forces to stand between those who want to provide day care for our children and the money that makes the programs possible. The BCCDC has demonstrated its ineffectiveness in the past, and on that basis alone there is little reason to hope for results.

Yet it is realistic to believe that the BCCDC will be funded because the City already has much invested in the organization, not the least of which is its scapegoat value when direct services are demanded by the community's parents. It is



equally realistic to believe that local tax money given to the BCCDC will not result in programs for this community. As an organization, the BCCDC is in severe internal crisis, and the energy and expertise to develop child care services are missing at present. It may well take another six months before BCCDC is in a position to disperse funds. What will govern the dispersal at that point is anybody's guess.

The recent developments in BCCDC are a setback to the coherent planning of comprehensive child care services for the City of Berkeley. Fortunately, however, while it could be of help, the BCCDC is not necessary to the development of expanded child care services. Galling as it may be to know that local child care dollars entrusted to BCCDC may for the most part be wasted, it is nevertheless the case that Berkeley may yet see the creation

of new child care facilities. For, as in the case of the new and excellent ASUC program and Grove Street College Program, both of which serve hundreds of

children, child care can result from the persistent efforts of small groups of community people.

The trick is to develop a program that is eligible for funds from one or more of the myriad state and federal funding sources. The formula for such a program often requires some ingenuity, but IT CAN BE DONE! And currently there are over a half-

dozen groups of community parents hard at work at this very process.

In future articles we will provide some case histories of successful local child care centers, pointing out the routes they took to make their centers a reality. For until the City finds a more effective way in which to aid the development of child care than it has found in the BCCDC, the real potential for expanding and upgrading child care services still remains in the hands of local people whose prime interest is serving the children and the families in our community.

"Politico women are unable to evolve an authentic politics because they have never truly confronted their oppression as women in a gut way, their inability to originate a feminist leftist critique of their own, their need to tie their issue at all times to some 'primary struggle' rather than seeing it as central, or even revolutionary in itself, is derived directly from their lingering feelings of inferiority as women. Their inability to put their own needs first, their need for male approval...to legitimate them politically, renders them incapable of breaking from other movements when necessary, and this consigns them to mere left reformism; lack of originality, and ultimately, political sterility."

--S. Firestone, *Dialectics of Sex*

Many women have felt that the above statement is true of Coalition politics. This newspaper has the potential of being an expression of feminist analysis and programs or it can continue to be the genteel left equivalent of the women's page.

--A Coalition Woman



## Rape Victim Advocate Program

Most women know that if you wear a dress instead of pants on the street in Berkeley you will probably be hassled by men. Sexual politics are most blatant when acted out on the public street.

And at the base of this political relationship are the threat and fear of rape. The significance of the skirt: accessibility and encumbrance.

It's no surprise that a society whose code of normal dress embodies such oppressive concepts (ever try to run in a panty girdle and high heels?) also treats the woman who has been raped unsympathetically and often unjustly. She is often treated as if she were the criminal not the victim.

### Victim Advocate Program

The Committee To Change Rape Procedures, a group of Berkeley

women, have decided that women must organize to aid each other deal with the problem of rape. They plan a 'rape victim advocate' program in which volunteer women will give support and follow-up on the legal, emotional and physical needs of rape victims.

Since November the Committee has been meeting with the Berkeley Police, Herrick Hospital, Berkeley Public Health Department and the Berkeley Schools to enlist the cooperation of these institutions in the program. It is hoped that the

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### COMMITTEE TO CHANGE RAPE PROCEDURES

To Volunteer or  
For Information  
Call  
845-8854  
(Womens Refuge)

---

institutions will begin participating in the program by September.

### The Advocates' Role

Trained advocates, many of them former rape victims, will be available through a 24 hours switchboard. The advocate will remain with the victim during police questioning to offer emotional support and prevent hassling by police.

At Herrick the advocate will help the rape victim deal with a medical staff who view the victim as an unpleasant legal problem rather than a person in need of sympathetic medical

(continued on page 9)

## ***New Ideologue Against Child Care***

First it was Bowlby saying that children must be with their mother, then it was the Rhesus monkey who pined away without mommy. (Of course no one looked into what Bowlby meant by care and who looked into specie characteristics of Rhesus monkeys before instantly saying that group child care is evil, bad, and unnatural.)

Now the ever-ready mass media has come up with a new ideologue against child care for children under three. Dr. Lee Salk, brother of the Jonah, is the latest to come up with a shining book, perhaps it should be retitled, *The Return to Kuche, Kinde and Kirke*.

Salk is quoted as saying he was "opposed to child care centers for children under the age of three, partly because they are too young to learn social behavior and partly because competently trained people who are sincerely interested in child care are hard to find." Just as Jensen and Shockly are trying to reconstitute racism within the universities, so one can expect that new ideologues will crop up with increasing frequency in your national media in regard to group care of infants and children. They will be on fertile ground, for women have long been primed to guilt and denial of their experience and that of their children. There are women in Berkeley and all over the U.S. who do not have the credentials but who have had the experience of seeing what group care has done for their children and themselves. Salk is quoted: "Parents must be able to sacrifice." Well, we all know which parent that is! Can you imagine how much coverage Salk would get if he said, **FATHERS MUST SACRIFICE.**

Academia is littered with such authorities on children and learning. Most are men. The daily experience of women with their children in play groups and other groups is part of the unknown history of women and children. **WATCH OUT FOR THE PIGS ON YOUR WOMEN'S PAGE**

**RAPE**

(continued from page 8)  
care.

The Committee hopes that the presence of an advocate whose primary concern is the protection of the victim will itself prevent the expression of institutional and individual mistreatment of the woman who has been raped.

The ever existent threat of rape is as Susan Griffin has said in her article, RAPE: THE ALL-AMERICAN CRIME, "a form of mass terrorism, for the victims of rape are chosen indiscriminately, but the propagandists for male supremacy broadcast that it is women who cause rape by being unchaste or in the wrong place at the wrong time-- in essence, by behaving as though they were free."

When the rape victim goes to the police and then the courts, the propaganda is translated into law. First, by definition, a husband cannot rape his wife. He cannot steal what is already his.

Secondly, the law relies on the concept of "resistance" to identify rape. This means that

a woman must show that she fought her attacker or that he threatened her life if she resisted. This idea of "resistance" sounds a lot like a situation where a night watchman in a warehouse that has been robbed might have to show how he resisted the thieves before he could escape the charge of being an accomplice.

The laws of rape have less to do with preventing violence against women than they do with preventing damage to the property of men.

**Myths About Rape**

Despite the myth that only 'bad' women who fail to protect themselves are raped, the truth is that no woman is safe from rape. The following statistics come from the Berkeley Police Department records for 1971: 1/2 of all victims were acquainted with their assailant, and 1/4 of all rapes happened in the victim's own home.

Finally, women can organize to minimize the occurrence of rape. The old "Sisters pick up Sisters" hitch-hiking movement should be strongly revived, for instance. But the fact is that in this city at this time, women are never as free as men.

# Housing Support By Berkeley City Council

- 5/11/71--Rejected hospital zoning ordinance in order to block Alta Bates and Herrick hospitals' expansion efforts. 6-2.
- 6/2/71--Rejected Cedar Street Overpass purchase of land, saving property from the auto. 6-2
- 6/30/71--Voted no funds for Berkeley Redevelopment Agency and prevented use of city funds to support West Berkeley Industrial Park. Unanimous; 5-2
- 8/31/71--Reversed history of property tax increase by lowering tax rate by a half-cent.
- 9/14/71--Blocked expansion of Shattuck Avenue Co-op parking lot, thereby saving a home. Use permit denied 3-3
- 10/26/71--Denied a variance, thus blocking a 65 unit "plastic" apartment building opposed by neighborhood. 5-3
- 11/16/71--Planning Commission Appointments: Neil Mayer, a U.C. student and Margot Dashiell, a Black activist.
- 12/21/71--Called upon Berkeley Redevelopment Agency to have a moratorium on demolition and acquisition in Ocean View.
- 1/18/72--Denny Abrams appointed to Board of Adjustments.
- 2/1/72--Blocked approval of the Workable Program for Community Development for revision to include additional facts about housing.
- 2/8/72--Called for a meeting of all relevant agencies to solve Savo Island eviction crisis.

## City Job Announcements

Note: Closing date for applications, Thursday, July 6, 1972

City Participation Coordinator (Model Cities), \$901-1094/mo.

Position: Directs development of comprehensive community participation program

Apply: Application with City of Berkeley Personnel Department, 2100 Grove St., Berkeley. Resumes are requested.

Requirements: 6 years progressively responsible experience in community organization work or graduation from college plus 2 years full-time in community organization and development or any other suitable combination of training and experience....

Public Information Officer (Model Cities), \$768-931/mo.

Position: Develops a public information system.

Apply: See above.

Requirements: Approx. 4 yrs. of progress. responsible full-time exper. in public relations, journalism, or in a staff capacity preparing written material for publication, and working with a variety of communications media or college education with major work in journalism, television, radio, or communications, or a suitable combination of experience and education. Residence in Model Cities area desired.

**RON DELLUMS NEEDS YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT**

Only you can provide the continuity on which a people's congressman depends. Please send in this coupon with your contribution today. Please let us know how you can help.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month until Nov. to help re-elect Ron.  
I cannot pledge, but enclose a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I can help by \_\_\_\_\_ precinct work \_\_\_\_\_ phoning \_\_\_\_\_ office work.

Committee to Re-Elect Congressman Ron Dellums  
6525 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, Ca. 94609; phone 658-9241

**NATIONAL PEACE POLL:**

# Should Congress End The War?

NATIONAL PEACE POLL  
Should Congress bring the war to an end by cutting off the funds?  
YES ( ) NO ( )  
NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
SEND THIS BALLOT TO NATIONAL PEACE POLL  
Box 903, Washington, D.C. 20013

Place before June 30th. Congress must make a decision on whether to cut funds for the War in Vietnam. By writing a date to re-examine the funds, it can indicate the withdrawal of our troops and insure the return of our prisoners. Or you can vote to continue the war. Your response will influence how they will vote.

For additional ballots, please copy ballot above on a postcard or a sheet of paper and mail in. Also, please insert this ad in your town newspaper, church, business, or union bulletin.  
If you can contribute, your donations will help us get the ballot to other Americans, and to take the results of the poll. Send your donations in an amount of \$1.00 to: PEACE ALERT USA, 235 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.  
Sen. Harold E. Hughes (D-Iowa) Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) Rep. Donald W. Rosten Jr. (D-Mass.) Rep. Paul D. McCloskey Jr. (R-Calif.) National Co-Chairmen Peace Alert USA

# ECOLOGISTICS

## SHELL IS AT IT

### AGAIN

"20 cents OFF...You can fly-proof and mosquito-proof 1000 cubic feet of your home... Hang up No-Pest Strips in your living room, family room, bathroom..." says an ad sent to an unknown number of Berkeley "Residents" this June by the R.H. Donnelley Corp., 2000 York Road, Oak Brook, Illinois, 60521.

Shell makes the No-Pest Strip, which contains a pesticide variously known as DDVP, Vapona, Dichlorovos, or dichlorovinyl dimethyl phosphate. According to the April, 1972, California Safety News, the acute oral toxicity of DDVP is greater than that of DDT, lindane, or chlordane. So you think you're safe because no one is going to eat a No-Pest Strip?

The DDVP slowly evaporates from the device, providing a continuous supply of the chemical in the surrounding air, hence continuous exposure of any nearby people. Used according to directions, particularly when ventilation is poor or humidity is low, the concentration of the blood enzyme acetylcholinesterase can be affected by the DDVP in the Strip. This enzyme is involved in transmission of nerve impulses. Think about it a bit and you won't be surprised that DDVP is in a group of chemicals that includes nerve gases.

No one knows what the effect of long term exposure to DDVP is. Most of the experiments to determine the toxicity of DDVP have involved eating rather than breathing it. Do you want to run a breathing experiment in your house?

For nearly ten years, Shell has been successfully fighting efforts of the US Public Health Service to ban the use of DDVP in continuous release products, such as the No-Pest Strip. The packages are now required to carry warnings against use in areas where food is prepared or served or in rooms continuously occupied by infants or ill persons, but you'll still find them in some Bay Area restaurants. No warning appeared in the mailed ad.

Even the AMA objects to the use of "Insecticidal poisons that are effective because of deliberate, continuous pollution of the atmosphere." If it's bad enough to worry them, it must be pretty bad: they haven't exactly spoken out about environmental poisons.

Don't let Shell make profits by polluting your home, throw out the coupon! You can also write to the Donnelley Corp. (see address above) to object to this ad or, better yet, to all such "Resident" mailings.

Many stores do not know that there is any problem about the

No-Pest Strip: when you see this product displayed, tell them why you don't think they should carry it. Out of ten Berkeley and Albany hardware stores checked by phone, 7 carried the Shell No-Pest Strip, and one carried a similar product under the Vapona trade name. These are the stores that are trying to sell you DDVP:

Corey's Hardware, 828 San Pablo, Albany (I told them about the hazards of DDVP months ago)  
Berkeley Hardware, 2145 University (No-Pest Strip on special 6/22/72)  
Elmwood Hardware, 2951 College (Vapona)  
Dwight Way Hardware, 2480 Shattuck  
Genevieve's Hardware and Variety, 2952 Sacramento  
Golden Bear Variety, 2411 Telegraph Ave.  
South Berkeley Hardware, 3280 Adeline  
Thousand Oaks Variety Hardware, 1831 Solano  
If enough people object, maybe none of these stores will reorder.

### Selina Bendix



#### RECYCLING CENTER

(continued from page 1)

opinions and recommendations. All those approached were generally in favor of the proposal.

On April 25, Ecology Action wrote a request to the council for a public hearing. By May 23, no action had been taken by the council to hear the proposal with Ecology Action's Federal Grant due to expire at the end of June.

Councilwoman Hancock submitted the proposal under the consent calendar part of the agenda, which should have brought it to the council's attention under the first order of business. It was finally discussed in May, and two votes were taken. The first was a vote on passing the proposal itself which failed with only councilmembers Bailey, Simmons and Hancock voting for it.

A motion to endorse the proposal in principle and await a report from the city Manager's office for final approval passed with seven people voting for and two absent. The City Manager report, which was to come back the following week, took longer and finally Hancock reintroduced the item on the consent calendar on June 20, as time was getting short.

In the meantime, Ecology Action had begun working with the Center for Environmental Symbiotics, a predominantly black group, and had made an agreement that they would participate in the program, run one of the recycling centers, and share in the educational part of the program.

So the next time the proposal came before the Council, Tuesday June 20, both centers were there to answer questions.

Bailey introduced several amendments pertaining to the racial composition of the Community Policy Advisory Board, changing the pay of one third of the workers to \$3.00 an hour, instead of \$2.00, and making one quarter of the jobs full time. These were all accepted by the two groups and the proposal was voted on and it passed unanimously with three Councilmen absent. It was then sent to the City Attorney to have the legal draft drawn up and to be voted on finally the following evening.

The council was meeting three evenings that week with budget deliberations. The following evening, Bailey announced, with only five people present, that he wasn't going to vote on the proposal that evening.

All nine council people were potential votes for the program because they all voted on support of it one way or another during previous votes (except Sweeney). So, it was a matter of getting the right five people seated at a meeting at the same time.

Thursday evening, Bailey presented another amendment, which was that the administration of the grant, currently given to the predominantly white Ecology Center, be transferred to CES. This proposal was not acceptable to Ecology Action, the vote divided, and both alternatives lost with Bailey and Simmons voting for the grant to go to CES, and Hancock, Kallgren, Price and McLaren voting for it to go to the Ecology Center. Sweeney voted against both and Widener abstained on both.

With one more chance before time ran out, the two Centers struck a compromise whereby both of them administered the grant jointly. They still were not sure how Bailey and Simmons would vote, and presumed Sweeney would vote against it. Widener was out of town, so they needed Hone, Kallgren, McLaren, Price and Hancock at the June 27 meeting.

At the Tuesday afternoon session, McLaren told some of the interested party, that he would not be back that evening. The City Attorney's office, was in the midst of typing the latest draft of the contract.

Hone said she could not vote on the proposal until she had time to study the contract--- which would mean a delay until the evening session when McLaren and presumably Kallgren could not be there.

After much frantic effort, it was decided that the two councilmen would come for a while to the evening session.

That evening, several Telegraph Avenue street people were planning to disrupt the council meeting with some demands regarding the war and the bombing of the dikes in Vietnam.

(continued to page 11, top)

McLaren and Kallgren had not arrived yet, and several members of the council threatened to leave if the meeting was disrupted. So the street people and the people from Ecology Action and CES had a brief meeting in the hall, where the Ecology people asked the street people to wait until after the Ecology vote for the disruption. Most people seemed to agree to wait although some felt strongly they should go ahead with the disruption.

In the meantime, all the council members had arrived. So the discussion was open, a brief report was given that the city's solid waste commission had endorsed the proposal, and a vote was taken in which it was unanimously approved, to the relief of all concerned.

KATHY RHODES

## JONES LOSES CLOSE RACE TO BORT

Only 2000 votes cheated Mike Jones from a November run-off election with incumbent Joseph Bort for membership from the 4th District on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Because of the groundwork he laid, Mike predicts that Bort will be defeated in 1976 by another liberal-radical candidate. Many people now know of this "secret government", five men, who set the tax rate for a 270 million budget (compared to Berkeley's 27 million). It is a case of exorbitant taxation in Jones' estimation.

What went wrong in the campaign then? Mike says "I lost in Castro Valley and in the student community; the students failed to vote on rent control and Supervisor like they could have." His low-keyed campaign did not reach and involve students mainly because the strike lines at U.C. were respected.

Neither did the expected support from McGovern workers materialize. McGovern precinct organizers were outsiders, who did not understand coalition politics, so precinct walkers carried only one man's literature.

Mike's campaign staff had been optimistic about November. They had had no doubt that the margin of 10,000 votes between Jones and Bort would have faded rapidly as Ken Meade and Ron Dellums, Democratic incumbents, turned November into a partisan affair and Mike joined them.

Bort, a one term Republican supervisor, who served on the Berkeley City Council until 1968, was vulnerable on several issues. In his campaign, he had taken credit for the food stamp program as well as for improvements at the Santa Rita County Jail Farm. Neither was true, according to Jones.

Chameleon-like, Bort also supported the Southern Crossing of the bay and was against neighborhood health clinics until ninety days before the election: then he shed his establishment skin and switched positions.

How do you get ammunition for a campaign in Alameda County. You don't is the answer.

Three days were spent by Jones' staff with video-taped recordings of many meetings of the Board of Supervisors in a fruitless attempt to compile a voting record on the incumbent.

"The way the Board meetings are run is a shuck on the public" are Mike's words. Roll call votes seldom happen. With the deft eye of an auctioneer, the Board Secretary picks up signs only visible to him. His cry of "three for - two against" is almost the only proof that a vote actually happened.

Jones as a Black social planner and long-time activist (Civil Rights, anti-war) obviously puts his poor Black and White brothers first and doesn't like the health facility neglect here in Berkeley.

Herrick Hospital is inadequate with what County paid service it offers. Mike cites only two beds here for mental health patients. South County conservatives apparently have the political clout to bring hospitals and clinics there.

It's not surprising that Mike Jones, a Berkeley politico since Free Speech days, has at least one eye on the City Council election of 1973. "I don't know the name of the game this year" he said. His acreage in Mendocino looks more appealing to him every day.

## Dellums

(continued from page 1)

in that he ran strongly in the newly added Contra Costa portions of the 7th C.D. and his vote total was greater than opposition Democrats and Republicans combined. That's the good news.

The primary results are also a cause for considerable concern. The opposition in the Democratic primary did not run a dynamic campaign and Ron's ability to hold the loyalty of non-radical Democrats has not yet been tested in the face of the kind of well financed radical baiting campaign that the Republicans will throw against him in the fall. (Ron has been picked as "vulnerable" by the Republican National Committee and there will be heavy money available to Hannaford.)

More seriously, the Dellums campaign is showing the weakness of a people's congressman. In 1970, Dellums was where the action was and volunteers and money were relatively plentiful. Even so, the campaign then ended up with a substantial debt, which has still to be paid off and drags on our ability to finance the current effort.

We have the further problem of a presidential drawing off of volunteers; McGovern is the action candidate in 1972.

This fall will see Dellums running in more conservative districts, against a better financed and more attractive Republican than he faced two years ago--and Ron will have no money and little organization. The problem is not a personal problem with Dellums, but the inherent difficulty of "working within the system".

The system is, for a congressman once elected, to tie himself to powerful and wealthy interests within the district--he is then supplied with sufficient funding to continue in office without strain. Indeed, the local Republican papers usually endorse the conventional incumbent Democrats to give their lists of endorsements a "non-partisan" aspect. Such a congressman does not have to worry about maintaining an active mass base.

Maverick congressmen, let alone a radical congressman, are continually faced with the problem of maintaining an active popular organization to counter the effects of hostile press and well financed opposition.

We, in the Coalition, owe Ron a special debt. It was his endorsements that were critical in winning the Berkeley city elections and rent control.

Dellums needs your help now. Money needs to be raised. If you can have a fund raising party in your home or arrange a chance benefit, please get started and let us know.

The campaign needs visibility. Every Coalition member should have a Dellums sign on their front lawn or window.

Mostly, the campaign needs you --your time available on a regular basis for phoning, mailing, precinct work and all the other shit work that political campaigns thrive on.

The precinct breakdowns are not available yet, but from the sample precincts, it appears that the Fair Rent Committee was able to cut into the conservative hold on the black community in a significant way, and to carry the campus areas by a large margin, despite an effective and confusing mailing there by the realtors.

How the hills voted will be interesting to see. Except for leafletting at the Co-ops, there was little effort put forth there.

The Rent Control election has clearly shown that the moderate to radical left can mount a definite majority in Berkeley. No doubt the eighteen year old vote coupled with an intensive voter registration drive helped, but a sample look at the figures shows that eight thousand fewer people voted against rent control than voted against police control, and over eleven thousand people voted for rent control than voted for police control.

Since June 6th, the Berkeley Gazette has been strangely quiet about "majority rule", one of its favorite subjects before the election.

# Rent Control

(continued from page 1)

would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to administer, that it would make it more difficult for students to rent apartments and that rent control, with its provisions for bringing buildings up to code, would lead to the destruction of old houses and their replacement with ticky-tackies.

In addition, there were anti-rent control ads in the Gazette almost every day, featuring anti-rent control endorsements from Council members Hone, Kallgren, Sweeney, Price and McLaren, and a good deal of paid advertising on KDIA and KCBS. The realtors admit spending \$33,600 on their campaign, but it is estimated that they probably spent close to \$40,000. The Fair Rent Committee had about \$1,800 to spend.

The FRC concentrated its efforts in the black community and on and around the campus. The hills were virtually ignored. The campus battle was waged through the Daily Californian over a period of months. The black community was reached through special mailings, leaflets, and "drops" of literature, plus sixteen KDIA radio spots which Ron Dellums recorded.

Although many people expressed support for rent control, few were interested in doing any work. A core of ten to twelve people worked very intensively over a short period of time, in a campaign that was cut into by the week of rioting following Nixon's Haiphong speech.

While the realtors could pay people \$20 a day to hand out their literature, and thirty cents for every Fair Rent Committee poster they tore down, FRC had to rely largely on its own energies. Also some Dellums and McGovern precinct workers were reluctant to carry rent control material because they feared it would hurt their respective candidates.

The media was no help either. The Gazette tried to ignore the whole campaign, as did the Chron Chronicle and the Examiner. KPFA did broadcast on debate on KPFB, and Larry Bensky had two FRC members and a realtor on his late night show in the last days of the campaign. KQED covered the issue the Friday before the election, but generally it was as if the media felt that rent control was too controversial to handle. They had all been sent a copy of the charter amendment and other material about eight weeks before the election.

Therefore, the rent control victory was somewhat remarkable, considering the resources the realtors had at their disposal and the FRC's lack of resources.

## A Short History of Rent Control in Berkeley

The movement for tenant's rights and tenant's power in Berkeley is not merely a recent development. Since 1960, there have been periodic attempts to organize tenants against real estate interests and landlords. Most of these attempts have involved the organizing of tenants into a union or unions for the purposes of collective bargaining with landlords. By far the most successful tenant unionizing movements were the Berkeley Tenants Union (BTU) and Tenants on a Radical Change in Housing (TORCH); but the successes of BTU and TORCH were basically limited to collective bargaining agreements with a few of the more oppressive landlords and educating a number of people. But the years of exploitation and frustration by a legal and economic system which strongly favors landlords ended with the passage of Rent Control.

In the early to mid sixties, tenant movements consisted mainly of tenants trying to bargain with landlords for more equitable leases, primarily for student housing. None of these efforts ever culminated in any substantive results.

1969, just prior to People's Park, saw the beginnings of a Rent Control movement. Like Proposition "i," this Rent Control was in the form of a Charter Amendment, which required signature collection and passage by the voters. However, this attempt was aborted when People's Park was taken over by the University Administration and the complete disruption which followed.

After People's Park, the BTU began to organize tenants to exert their collective power against landlords. Shortly thereafter, TORCH organized in the Black community to help

tenants with their rights. But the same exploitative economic conditions which in part produce the unfavorable rental situation also keep the tenants oppressed; and coupled with a legal system stacked against tenants, prevents effective organizing and action against landlords. Thus, despite the odds, BTU and TORCH were able to make some inroads into the real estate interests' power.

The Fair Rent Committee, which originated the Rent Control Charter Amendment, was not directly spawned from the BTU. It was originally made up of people from various Berkeley communities, some of whom were BTU'ers. The goal was to see what Berkeley tenants could accomplish on a city level to equalize landlord-tenant power. Rent Control was a tool which had been used effectively in other cities and it was seen as a way of gaining justice for tenants and of balancing the unfair power relationships. With a Berkeley population of two-thirds tenants, the FRC felt that tenant electoral strength could overcome their lack of economic power. Thus, Rent Control could be used to relieve tenants from the burdens of high rents and, perhaps, to aid in the organization of tenants.

There were still significant decisions which had to be made concerning the form and details of the Rent Control mechanism. Accordingly, the FRC tried to obtain as much community input as possible. After a year of working sessions, of sending proposals and drafts throughout the City, and of calling community meetings, the FRC's Rent Control Charter Amendment was ready to be placed on the ballot.

Rich Illgen

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