



# GRASSROOTS

A BERKELEY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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## council report CHARTER, LANDMARKS, BUDGET

The Berkeley City Council has voted to place two of the three charter amendments proposed by the Charter Review Committee on the June 4th ballot.

Appearing on the June ballot will be a charter amendment to eliminate outmoded language from the charter and a second amendment to reform Berkeley's election laws. It would restrict special elections during the summer and also provide for the filling of most council vacancies through election rather than appointment.

The council majority refused to place on the ballot the Charter Review Committee's third proposal, which would have transferred the power to hire and fire department heads from the city manager to the city council. A motion by councilmembers Hancock and Kelley to place this third proposal on the ballot was defeated on a vote of 2-4, with Hancock and Kelley voting yes, and Hone, Ramsey, Simmons and Widener voting

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## COUNCIL CO-OPTS SPENDING REFORM WITH COPYCAT BILL

As a result of last week's action by their city council, Berkeley voters find themselves with three local campaign-spending reform measures to choose from on the June 4 ballot (in addition to Proposition 9, the statewide election

reform measure). The first of these, the Campaign Reform Act, made it to the ballot by means of an arduous petition campaign in which over 12,000 citizens signed to put that act before the voters. At a special meeting on March 19, the

city council, having no other choice by law, voted to place that measure on the ballot. Then, in a move which surprised everybody but the five majority council persons present, Sue Hone brought up a second bill, the Election Reform Act, which closely resembles the initiative measure. Hone and her supporters claim that her bill is better than the initiative act as it is less open to fraudulent practices by candidates or campaign committees. The council majority, most of whom have expressed reservations about any campaign spending reform, supported the placement of Hone's measure on the ballot right down the line.

Hone's bill is, for the most part, an exact copy of the initiative measure. There are some changes in style, spelling, punctuation, etc., and several sections include extra details which do not affect the meaning. The only change of any substance occurs in Section 603, which, in the initiative measure, prohibits corporate and other business contributions. Hone removed that entirely and replaced it with two paragraphs having to do with limitations on anonymous donations. She made a separate measure of the paragraph prohibiting corporate contributions which will appear separately on the ballot as an amendment.

### COUNCIL RAILROAD

The council majority was eager to act on Hone's measures on March 19th, even though any action taken would have been in violation of the Brown Act, since the matter was not on the published agenda of the special meeting. Vice-Mayor Wilmont Sweeney pooh-poohed suggestions that their action was illegal and City Attorney Donald McCullum supported that view with an opinion that what the majority wanted was legal. Over objections from council members Loni Hancock and Ying Lee Kelley, the council discussed Hone's attempt to put her bill on the ballot, but decided not to act after somebody looked at a copy of the Brown Act and learned that action at a special meeting on an unscheduled topic

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Councilmembers Hone, Hancock, and Sweeney

Photo by Margaret Copeland

## bart strip purchase

### NEW ATTEMPT TO DUMP GROVE ST. COLLEGE



Thomas Fryer

Last week's decision to purchase the North Berkeley BART strip by the Peralta School Board is extremely significant for two separate, ongoing community fights. In the North Berkeley community, the decision to locate a new "learning pavilion" on the area between McGee and Sacramento flies in the face of ongoing community planning processes there. For Grove Street College, the decision to close down that college could represent the culmination of many years of long and bitter struggle to maintain a real, accessible community college.

Despite strong opposition from all communities involved, the Peralta Board of Trustees voted unanimously, with one abstention, to purchase the land for \$400,000, subject to getting the necessary clearance for use. Their presently vague plans for a "learning pavilion" involve a non-degree-granting educational extension center, despite the commitment to the northern part of the district to provide a full junior college. The Board voted despite the presence of students, faculty, and community people who all

expressed opposition, including a request from Mayor Widener that the decision be delayed and a communicated position from Congressman Dellums supporting the rebuilding of Grove Street College.

### COUNTER-ACTIONS

A series of counter-actions are in motion to stop the decision. The Peralta College Council and the teachers' union are taking District Chancellor Fryer to court for his failure to include the normal decision-making bodies of the district in the decision. Fryer merely announced his intentions to these representative groups, but made no attempt to include them, despite state law which requires such participation. Said union representative Chuck Wollenberg, "The filing of this writ is a necessary response to the extraordinary administrative arrogance of the Peralta District."

On another front, the Berkeley Planning Commission and council members raised objection. The commission sent a communication to the city council reiterating its opinion that the BART strip land should be used for low- and moderate-income housing. They call on the Peralta Board to offer a detailed educational rationale for its use of the land, and an explanation of why the Grove Street campus would not be an appropriate site. Presently the land is

zoned predominantly R-2, with some R-4, and needs a zoning variance from the planning commission and city council approval to go through. In addition, it looks like at least a majority, if not all, of the council members oppose the action.

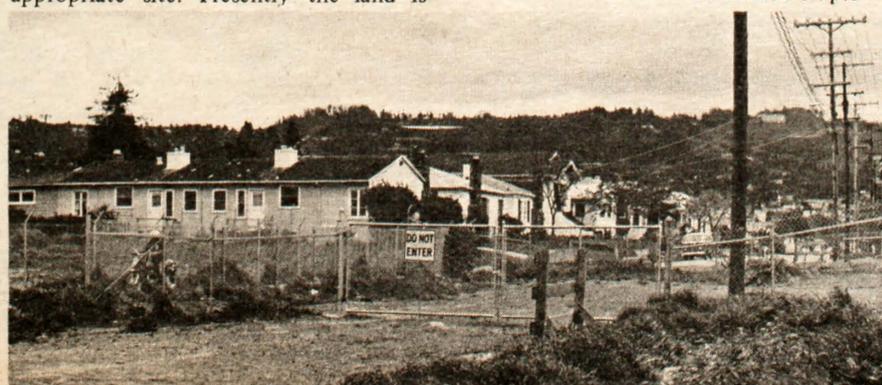
### NORTH BERKELEY OPPOSITION

Planning processes concerning the use of the strip have been in effect for years. A committee of North Berkeley residents has been developing proposals, which include housing, open space, child care and medical care facilities. Expectations hardly included a "learning pavilion," thrust on them in a rapidly made decision.

With this much opposition, it looks like the Peralta proposal will never go through, at least on the BART strip. Martha Nicoloff of the North Berkeley Neighborhood Council feels that the proposal "died at the planning commission" and that, in terms of the community, it's a "false alarm." City council and planning commission opposition will stop the project, she feels, noting, "I think everybody's upset that a super-body would come in that way."

With the failure of the proposal likely, the question arises why the decision was made. One possibility is that the Peralta

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Berkeley's BART Strip

Photo by Margaret Copeland

## split-level hone

An interesting sidelight on Sue Hone's active efforts to sidetrack election reform in Berkeley is cast by the contradiction between those efforts and Hone's support of gubernatorial candidate Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Brown has identified campaign spending reform as one of the major issues of the campaign and publicly states his full support for Proposition 9, the statewide election reform measure. Hone is serving as Alameda County co-chairperson of Brown's campaign. Spokespeople for Brown's campaign expressed surprise when told of Hone's attempts to shoot down local reform sentiment. They stated, however, that they are attaching little significance to the matter, though they expressed some concern at the prospect of losing votes in Berkeley because of Hone's activities.

—Bruce Haldane

# GRASSROOTS

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## BERKELEY 6 UNDERMINE WILL OF THE PEOPLE

Last week, our city council majority pushed Sue Hone's two "campaign reform" measures onto the June ballot, thereby demonstrating once again the contempt in which that majority holds the democratic process. Previously, they refused to re-enact rent control after the courts did it in. Then they attempted to gain control over appointments to the Police Review Commission, in violation of the community will. Also, witness their cavalier attitude toward the initiatives for open mutual aid pacts and neighborhood preservation. Most recently, we watched them attack the 5% initiative. The tactic now? Confusion.

During the past few months, some 12,000 registered voters signed a petition to place on the ballot a campaign reform measure. The council had no choice but to place the initiative on the ballot, even though it limits their ability to buy future elections. Faced with campaign reform, which they do not want, but which, in an age of Watergate they cannot oppose, they decided to undermine the initiative rather than oppose it outright. The strategy was to create confusion in the name of clarification. They placed two more measures on the ballot, both of which together are practically the same as the original initiative. Why, they reasoned, have one initiative which would probably pass, when there can be three which, by their almost identical wording, can confuse the voters into defeating them all?

Their measures divide the community by encouraging the development of three factions — one favoring the original initiative, another favoring Hone's initiative and a third opposing both. This splits the majority of voters favoring campaign reform into two pluralities. Pluralities, of course, do not win elections!

Therefore, since we need campaign reform, we should vote yes on all three initiatives.

## NIXON BUDGET EXCISES HEALTH CARE

The total impact of Nixon's 1975 budget on the economy requires much guesswork along with any economic analysis. But the individual parts of the budget are clear and straightforward. The national tradition of inadequacies, corruption and corporate control of the government are clear.

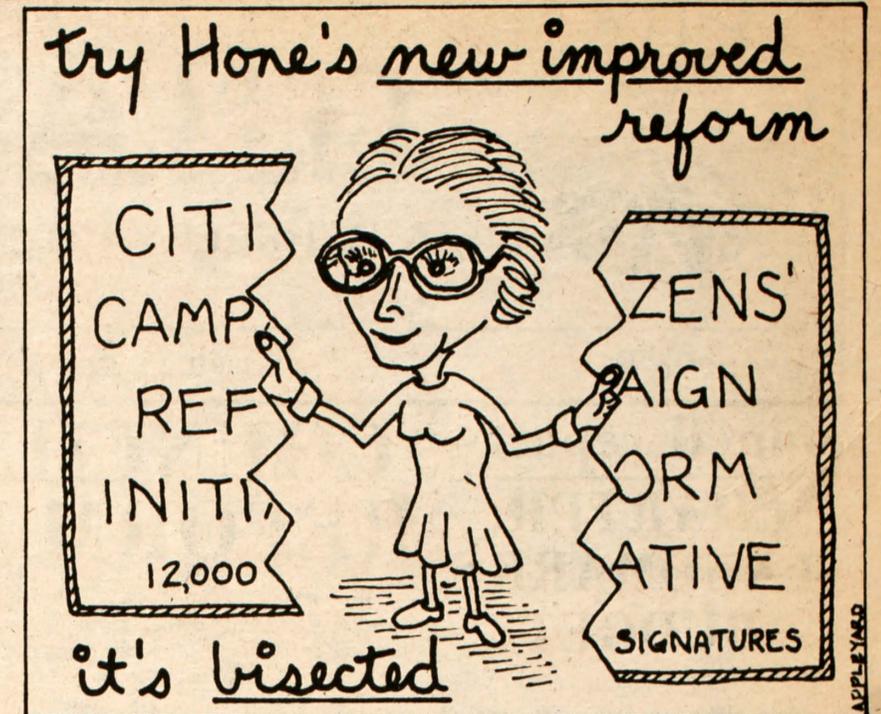
The National Institute of Health will receive an increase of \$149 million for a total budget of \$2 billion, while \$44 million is being cut from general support of health research institutions. There is heavy emphasis at NIH on cancer research and Nixon apparently would like to announce the cancer cure rather than have some government-funded university researcher take credit. The increase in funding is particularly important since the administration is using NIH grants for political purposes (S.F. Chronicle, 2/16/74, p. 7). Appointment to the committee that grants "research funds" requires Republican Party screening.

The administration is attempting, for the second year in a row, to set up a National Institute of Education. This was presented in last year's budget, but it was

drastically cut by Congress because its purpose was unclear. The disclosures about the political use of the National Institute of Health should clarify the purpose of the National Institute of Education. Political favoritism in academic grants is accepted in the academic community as "part of the system." In the past, academicians would not publicly sell their souls to the government. Research grants had to at least appear to be based on merit. The system evolved gradually until professors began to expect political payoffs in the form of grants. The 1975 federal budgets for NIH and NIE will allow the administration to officially formalize the process. It will be interesting to see which of Berkeley's liberal Democratic academicians tries to defeat Ron Dellums in the coming election and it will be even more interesting to see how closely his 1975 grants match his 1974 campaign debts.

### WAR BUDGET INCREASE

The war budget is going up \$6.3 billion to pay \$87.73 billion while the number of persons in uniform will decrease. This follows the trend in other



## cazadero follow-up

### PART TIME PAYOLA

Last month we ran an article describing how the city council majority paid off a political debt to conservative Tom McLaren. They voted a four-year contract for Robert Lutt, director of Cazadero Summer Music Camp and a crony of McLaren's. Lutt had previously been paid \$5000 for his work every summer. The new contract gave him a \$12,750 raise and made his job a year-round one, although just what he would do the other nine months of the

year was not made clear. (Lutt is also paid a salary of \$8000 a year from San Francisco State University.) In addition, Lutt, a White man, was given complete freedom from accountability to Walter Toney, Black director of Parks and Recreation, who would normally be his superior.

Well, we received one complaint about our story. A parent of a Cazadero camper felt that the article could be taken as being critical of the very existence of Cazadero, thought Lutt was doing a fine job, and said we should give him a chance to tell his side of the story. Grassroots being nothing if not fair, agreed that that was a splendid idea. We tried to contact Lutt at Parks and Recreation, but were unsuccessful. The person we talked to there told us that "Mr. Lutt only comes in about three times a week." And that's where your \$17,750 will be going every year for the next four years.

areas of government spending that emphasize manufactured products rather than services or personnel expenses. Much more profit will come out of a million-dollar rocket than a million dollars worth of salaries to military personnel. This is consistent with grants to police departments for machinery, but no subsidy for expansion of police services or personnel, money for "computerized learning systems" in overcrowded classrooms with overworked teachers, and grants toward the purchase of General Motors buses while there is little or no urban transit money to meet operating costs.

The food stamp program will increase to \$3.9 billion from \$3 billion this year and it is to be moved from the Department of Agriculture to HEW. The \$9 billion increase is an obviously inadequate sum. First, many more people will enter the food stamp program as the recession worsens. Second, and most important, food stamp allotments will have to increase significantly if the recipients are to stay above starvation levels. Much of our 1974 inflation will be concentrated in the agriculture sector of the economy and a disproportionate share of this inflation will be in foods that have traditionally been purchased by low-income people.

Most other budget items show little change or the changes have been so well publicized that additional discussion is not needed. There is a slight increase in funds for education that does not keep up with the rate of inflation. Spending for buses and subways (mostly buses) will go up to \$700 million from \$488.5 million in the last budget. Energy research will increase 80%, to \$1.8 billion.

Finally, there are two major red herrings that have surfaced.

Nixon has received much mileage in the press about his National Health Insurance plan. He forgets to mention that the money for the plan is not in his budget. The administration has announced a windfall profits tax on oil companies. This tax will be offset by a decrease in corporate profits tax.

Rachmaninoff and Berkeley

"And didn't avalanches begin with small disturbances?"

—Chou En-Lai

Rachmaninoff, your piano music plays like thunder over the Springtrees, patiently, growing

in open, revolutionary backyards. Yet . . . does that mean every line in the music of our lives is correct?

I do not know. Some of us are like you, Rachmaninoff: liars who think about battles, the women and children in our lives, and the newspaper reports.

To talk about love or making love is another thing, which being timid, old men, we hold back on!

The piano keys rumble and crash like a thousand summer nights begging for those tangible rains, tempered by suffering (suffering and lightning are two frenzied, living tributes found in Berkeley . . . during the restless periods of our lives.)

Rachmaninoff, it is true: Living teaches us to hold back on the lofty symphonies! But, what about the art of music and work

In a revolutionary love affair?

—Larry Ehrenburg

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# Argentina Rocks as Peron Rolls

## LEFT BETRAYED; MILITARY GAINS



U.S. equipped Argentine troops are being used in the repression of the Peronist and non-Peronist left. These soldiers are practicing counter-insurgency techniques. Photo by LNS

A clear pattern of repression against the left has emerged in Argentina. In a series of incidents, the right wing of the Peronist movement has moved to crush the Peronist and non-Peronist left, and this apparently with the blessing of President Juan Peron. Popular resistance to these moves has been determined.

The most recent action by the right wing was the police coup last month in the city of Cordoba. On Feb. 28, 800 police stormed the provincial government building in that industrial city and arrested Governor Ricardo Obregon Cano, a leftist Peronist, his deputy governor, full Cabinet, and 70 supporters from the provincial legislature. Cordoba fell under a state of siege and right-wing Peronists — some believed to be police out of uniform — roamed the streets looking for "Bolsheviks."

### PERON SUPPORTS COUP

Peron gave his blessing to the coup when he asked the federal legislature to replace the overthrown Obregon with a federal official. The Congress granted this. It is widely believed in Argentina that the entire coup was concocted by the federal government. The fact that in early February Peron replaced the governor of Buenos Aires province supports this contention. He had also been charged with being too close to the leftist guerrillas, both Peronist and non-Peronist.

To comprehend these current battles between the right and left in Argentina, one must look back at Peron's history and understand why radicals are associated with Peron.

### BEGINNINGS OF PERONISM

Peron first took power in 1944 and continued to build the strong labor movement he had begun as Minister of Labor. He forced employers to yield to union demands. Wages went up; social security funds were set up. The 8-hour day and minimum wage were given to field hands.

In 1945 Peron beat off an attempt to overthrow him by rallying 100,000 workers to fill the streets of Buenos Aires. In the next 10 years he moved to consolidate his support among Argentina's workers by instituting some of the most far-reaching social legislation in Latin American history. Unions were organized in every industry; education was made free. Low-income housing was constructed and paid vacations were made standard. Women were given three months off, paid, before and after childbirth. All workers received free medical care and half of their vacation expenses.

### PERON'S ECONOMIC POLICIES

In addition to these "bread-and-butter" measures, Peron vowed to bring about the "economic emancipation" of Argentina from the grips of foreign capital, primarily British. Peron bought out British interests in Argentina's mass transportation; he bought out the U.S.-owned ITT. He nationalized the gas and electric companies and created a

merchant marine which enabled Argentina to be self-sufficient in transporting its exports.

But in the early '50s, world prices for grain were falling. Peron's state commodity organization that bought for low prices from Argentine producers and sold high on the international market began to suffer. Since it was this organization that had provided the major investment capital for Argentine industrial expansion, the economy began to atrophy.

Peron never attempted to break the hold of the large landowners through land reform, and had never moved to nationalize the crucial meat-packing, sugar-refining and wool industries. These financial interests were beginning to find Peron a burden. They started to look north for capital, where the U.S.'s post-war boom was causing a search for new markets and cheap labor.

### PERON'S 1950s SUPPORT FADED

After he restricted foreign investment in the auto, oil and electrical industries, the sides had been drawn. The military was lining up on the side of the ruling class. The middle classes and small businessmen, mostly supporters of Peron earlier, wavered. They didn't relish a future dominated by U.S. interests, but they weren't convinced of Peron's viability either.



This poster, pasted over an authorized campaign poster, announces the FAR/Monteneros endorsement of Peron's candidacy in the September, 1973 special campaign, emphasizing their anti-U.S. perspective. Photo by LNS

The workers still supported Peron, in spite of the inflation which hit them hardest, and in spite of Peron's measures against those in the labor movement who dared criticize him. But they could do little when the time came. For even though Peron had used them to come to power, he had never trusted them enough to arm them against the military/oligarch alliance. Peron was ousted in 1955 by a junta of military officers. He fled to Spain and lived there in exile until June 1973, when he returned to Argentina.

### ARGENTINA "DE-PERONIZED"

Peron failed because he did not go far enough in his reforms — he was not a

revolutionary. However, the distance he had gone was already too far for the alliance that had overthrown him to tolerate. So in a series of military governments and military-backed civilian governments, the military/oligarch alliance which spanned the next 18 years attempted to "de-Peronize" Argentina, politically and economically. Major industry was denationalized. The position of the working class deteriorated. Unemployment rose to 10 percent.

The working class did not ignore these developments and during the years following Peron, strikes became a regular occurrence. Consequently the last military dictatorship instituted harsh repression on the strong trade-union movement.

### ROLE OF LEFT

But Argentina would not be "stabilized." A primary reason for this was the role played by the Argentine left. During Peron's years, the left outside of Peronism had been harshly repressed. Yet the left could not fail to recognize the effect of Peron's reforms on the consciousness of Argentina's workers. They could not ignore the trade union movement organized by Peron. Many left groups came to feel that their work could best be served by operating within the Peronist framework. In addition, many who considered themselves Peronists first had come to have criticisms of Peron and Peronism, finding analyses offered by the left-wing Peronists increasingly meaningful. Gradually, a Peronist left coalesced with a strategy to bring structural change to Argentina.

Their first step was to free Argentina from the grip of the military. Operating clandestinely, the non-Peronist and Peronist left organized into guerrilla groups which repeatedly assaulted the military regime. Through kidnappings of government officials, military figures and foreign corporate representatives, bank robberies, massive illegal strikes, assaults on military and police outposts, the guerrillas kept Argentina in a state of turmoil. The military junta responded with a massive wave of indiscriminate repression, furthering the alienation between them and the people.

### ELECTIONS IN 1973

Finally, the military, fearing an out-and-out revolution, moved to defuse

ERP operated outside of the Peronist movement but had a fraternal relationship with some of the left-wing Peronist groups.

Dr. Hector Campora, who was elected overwhelmingly in March 1973, moved decisively during his months in power to strengthen his alliance with the Peronist left. He appointed many left-wing Peronists to government posts, freed hundreds of political prisoners (including some important guerrilla leaders) and appointed a Marxist to head the university. He established diplomatic relations with Cuba, North Vietnam and other socialist nations, sharing the platform with Fidel Castro and Salvador Allende on his inauguration day.

### PERON RETURNS

Obviously, this was not what the military had in mind. More importantly, though, it was also not what the right-wing Peronists had in mind. Campora was ultimately forced out and new elections were called in which Peron himself ran.

During his 18 years of exile, Peron appears to have been influenced most strongly by the right-wing Peronists who maintained contact with him. Especially influential was Peron's personal secretary, Jose Lopez Rega, now also Minister of Social Welfare.

An extreme right-winger, Lopez Rega is credited with masterminding the massacre of leftist Peronists at the airport of Ezeiza on June 13, 1973, the day of Peron's return to Argentina from exile.

Dozens were killed and hundreds wounded as right-wing security troops fired on the unarmed leftist Peronist youth who had simply gathered at the airport to welcome Peron. The Ezeiza massacre marked the beginning of the move by right-wing Peronists to purge Peronism of its "Marxist influences."

In spite of the massacre, the Peronist left continued to support Peron and supported his ticket in the September special elections which Peron won in a landslide victory.

### WAR ON GUERRILLAS

However, the relationship was not without tension. When the ERP (who had pledged to limit their targets to the military and imperialist representatives while Campora was in office) assassinated Jose Ricci, the right-wing leader of the national labor federation, the CGT, on September 25, Peron declared war on the "Marxist guerrillas."

For the security forces and military, given responsibility to carry out the "war," the distinction between the ERP and the Peronist left was blurred at best, and the repression hit Peronist and non-Peronist leftists with equal force.

Since September, the tensions between the leftist Peronists and the right wing, including Peron, have increased. There have been more kidnappings by the ERP, more assassinations on both sides, and finally there was the January assault by the ERP on the 2,000-man army garrison at Azul, near Buenos Aires. Although the raid ultimately failed, the guerrillas, who numbered less than 100, managed to hold the base for more than seven hours. The military was outraged and the event was used as a pretext for an all-out crackdown by the right.

Currently, most of the Peronist left is underground again, not much better off than they were under the last military regime. Peron is continuing to solidify his support under the right-wing banner, pointing to the "Marxists" as a greater threat to Argentina than even U.S. business interests, which used to be a favorite target of Peron's rhetoric.

It remains to be seen how long Peron can hold on. It is clear that he still has support among the Argentine people. However, much of that support is based on memories of the past, not on the facts of the present.

(Compiled from LNS)

## WESLEY HESTER SEEKS POSITIVE POLICE CHANGES

Though his approach to police problems is sometimes a bit more cautious than that of his colleagues on the Police Review Commission, Wes Hester is not at all satisfied with the Berkeley Police Department status quo. Wes believes that the police can play a positive role in the community, but he feels that police thinking needs to change before we can realize and benefit from that potential. In fact, the more he deals with police matters, the more convinced he becomes that the police in Berkeley need to turn some of their thinking around. He feels that the PRC can be instrumental in bringing about such a change if the police can get over their apprehensions concerning citizen review of police activities.

Wes brings a legal background to his Commission tasks. He studied law at

highest vote count of any candidate.

It was just after a three-year stint in the army during the Second World War that Wes married Eula Mann whom he had met at a skating party. Their family is large, five daughters and two sons ranging in age from 12 to 27. Other children have been an important part of their lives also; from small beginnings — occasional day care for the children of friends — Eula and Wes have put together a well-regarded day care center which occupies the lower floor of the Milvia Street house where they live. They provide care for children of working and/or divorced parents in an informal home-like setting. There, according to Wes, the kids learn to get along with other kids and with adults other than their parents.

Wes considers that latter relationship, with third-party adults, as extremely

'radicals' will somehow be able to dictate city policy in regard to the department. Such a procedure simply isn't possible with the board limited to advice." Besides, the "radicals" aren't all that radical in Wes's view. He considers the leftist appointees to be "dedicated, sincere, efficient, capable, and a pleasure to work with." The Commission is generally of one mind, he feels, and works well together. Wes sees little point in any "radicals vs. conservatives" approach to the board.

Wes is no stranger to political matters, though. He once served briefly as personal secretary to Assemblyman Rumford; more recently he worked for several years as an administrative assistant to Assemblyman John Miller, running Miller's district office here in Berkeley. He also did some volunteer political work in the early sixties, before school started taking too much of his time. He was associated with a California Democratic Council club and worked for a time with the Political Action Committee, a group of black citizens working toward common goals. Then too, of course, his association with Sweeney gives him some contact with Berkeley politics, although the PRC is the first political work he has done since he became associated with Sweeney.

### POLICE RACISM

According to Wes, the allegations of racism within the BPD which Grassroots and the Black Caucus recently brought to light (see Grassroots, Feb. 6-18) and which the board is currently investigating represent the most important immediate problem facing the PRC. In the long run, though, the board must find a well-qualified investigator and, once that person gets on the job, start dealing with the complaints that have come in and with the general issue of police-community relations. He would approach the latter problem by working to change the view policemen have of their roles as policemen. Those views need some modification, he feels, if there is to be any improvement in the relationship we have with our police. "The emphasis

should be on service to the community, all the community, and on the policeman's obligation to treat all citizens fairly. People have the right to live as they want, say what they want, be what they want; those rights deserve the respect of the police. A primary factor in the widespread community dissatisfaction with our police is that they are not always willing to respect those rights."

### NEW POLICE CHIEF

Wes hopes that a new police chief will be able to put things on the right track. However, the new chief should not be a social worker; he should be trained and qualified in police work. But he should be able to administer fairly. "He should treat citizens and police officers alike, with dignity and propriety; he should promote on an equal basis, without regard to anything other than merit. His decisions should be based on fact, not on race or appearance. He should not tolerate racial inequality or racial slurs, either within the department or toward the public. He has got to be able to change the attitudes and the behavior which have led to the allegations we consistently hear of police racism."

As for his role on the Commission, Wes feels that it is yet to be measured. "We still haven't come to grips with the intent of the ordinance," he comments. "Once we get a fair-minded, efficient investigator and a working system of complaint investigation, once our procedures become standardized and publicized, the public will be able to judge whether the efforts which went into the enabling ordinance were worthwhile. At the same time, the police will come to understand that we mean to do our job and will, I think, move to correct the difficulties which brought the Police Review Commission into being." He feels that the part he plays will become clearer as the Commission is able to take care of the basic organizational problems. In the meantime Wes will be working hard to help put it together.

—Bruce Haldane



Police Review Commissioner Wesley Hester

Photo by Fern

Lincoln Law School in San Francisco and has just completed his bar exams; in May he'll find out how well he did. The law degree marked the end of some twenty years of part-time education. He started at City College of San Francisco, where he earned an A.A.; later he spent a semester at San Francisco State and then went on to work his way through a B.A. in Social Welfare at UC Berkeley, holding down a variety of part-time jobs in the process. He says that he found CCSF and SF State quite tough, much tougher than U.C.

### SWEENEY ASSOCIATE

Wes has been associated with Wilmont Sweeney for several years; he went to work for Sweeney after completing two years of law school. When he passes the bar, he hopes, at least for now, to remain with Sweeney. "Sweeney is a good lawyer," says Wes. "I've learned a lot while with him and I can't think of a better place to learn the ropes." It was Sweeney, of course, who appointed Wes to the PRC.

Wes was in recreation before getting into the legal business. He became interested in recreation as a boy, when he was spending much of his time participating in various recreation programs at city parks in Oakland and Berkeley. To this day he remains an avid tennis buff; he has a number of trophies from tournament play. Throughout the fifties he was a recreation director for the City of Berkeley. More recently he worked for Oakland City Councilman Joshua Rose as boy's work secretary at the Northwest Oakland Branch of the YMCA.

### CIVIC AUDITORIUM

Though he was born and raised in Oakland, Wes spent a fair amount of his time in Berkeley schools and parks and considered himself almost a Berkeley resident for years before he and his family actually moved here in 1958. Since that time he has devoted much of his time to the political and civic affairs of the city. Currently, in addition to his PRC work, he is serving a second term on the board of the Co-op Credit Union; he was re-elected to the post with the

important to a child's socialization. "The day care experience allows the kids to adjust to male and female adults away from home, to distinguish parents from other adults. It provides a comfortable beginning for relationships between the child and third parties. In later life, the police are among those third parties."

### CRITICAL OF POLICE

Unfortunately, police contacts are often not as comfortable as those at the Hester house. Wes feels that to be due largely to police attitudes, many of which he finds incomprehensible. "The people have, in effect, given their police department a certain amount of power to exercise for them; now the police don't want to answer to the people for their use of that power. That's wrong." He sees the necessity for a balance between police and community interests but, "the police don't seem to want that balance to come about." And while there are bound to be differences of opinion between the police and the PRC, he feels there is no justification for BPD hostility toward the Commission. "The police department has some problems in their relationships with the community," he says, "and the PRC is a good vehicle for helping clear up those problems. I think the BPD should take advantage of the opportunity which the Commission represents and get straight with the community. Unfortunately the police don't always see it that way."

The initiative ordinance which created the PRC is Wes's bible concerning matters before the board. That document, he points out, sets forth the priority police issues from the point of view of the community. If followed to the letter, the ordinance can work, he feels, to ensure that Berkeley's police treat Berkeley's citizens with the respect due them.

### ADVISORY POWERS

He notes that the PRC has only advisory powers, a limitation which he finds useful as he feels that it minimizes the possibility that some politician or other will be able to "use" the Commission. "The police don't understand the positive aspects of that kind of limitation," he says. "They are afraid that

# QUASIMODO



Public attitudes toward the disabled often fall within two general camps. One camp believes all disabled persons are academically brilliant and will survive on brain power alone, no matter what. The other camp believes that all disabled people are leading candidates for the post of village idiot and should be remanded to the nearest state institution as soon as possible. Both camps are wrong, of course. The disabled have no exclusivity on either brilliance or imbecility.

Living in Berkeley it's easy to join the first camp. You see all these people whizzing about the Cal campus in their electric wheelchairs. They must have something on the ball. And they do.

### MASK AND WEAPON

But thinking back on my own student days in Southern California, I realize that I used my academic prowess as a mask and a weapon. I was in my late teens and early twenties and still living with my parents. I had few friends in my own age group. This didn't bother me, or so I tried to tell myself. After all, I was too busy getting good grades and associating with my parents' friends to concern myself with silly peers. All they did was hang out at the corner soda fountain, listen to that dreadful rhythm and blues that was just coming into fashion, and perform various forbidden acts in back seats of cars. What a bore!

A more serious side effect to my academic pursuits, other than the damage I was doing to my psyche by my scholarly sleight-of-hand, was the hurt I was doing to my disabled friends. I was an intellectual Joe McCarthy. I envisioned myself in front of the less academically gifted of my friends, holding up my college diploma and saying, "I hold in my hand this piece of paper that implies I've read more books than you have; therefore, I know more than you do; therefore, I'm better than you are." This is sheer nonsense, of course. It was a petty fantasy conceived by a minor snob.

### DIFFERENT LIFESTYLES

Which brings me to the point of this column. What about the disabled person out in Hayward who likes to slug down a few beers at night while watching Monday Night Football? Or the person who enjoys keeping house and watching soap operas on television? Don't these people have a right to their lifestyles?

The answer should be "yes." But we have a tendency to look down our noses at people like this. This is true despite the fact that they may need more aid and comfort than someone with a more academic bent to his life. After all, the guy in Hayward who's disabled must travel a path heavy with the fears and prejudices of the middle class.

He needs our help to survive.



# MOVIES

I know "Lovin' Molly" has a terrible title. I also know that newspaper ads using blurbs from Playboy and Penthouse are not likely to be convincing to the readers of Grassroots. Still, "Lovin' Molly" is a faithful screen adaptation of the novel *Leaving Cheyenne* by Larry McMurtry, who also wrote the novel on which "The Last Picture Show" was based. And that alone should make you more than a little interested.

Essentially the story of a woman and her love for two men, "Lovin' Molly" is divided into three sections, placed in the 1920s, 1940s and 1960s. Each section is presented from the point of view of a different character. Unfortunately, the first section is much longer than the other two. As a result the story is slanted too much toward the character of Gid (played by Tony Perkins). This structural deficiency is partly compensated for by Beau Bridges' fine performance as Johnny and by Blythe Danner's incredibly rich and moving performance as Molly. In general, despite occasional lapses into melodrama, "Lovin' Molly" has a direct, honest, human quality which in times like these is especially appealing.

Richard Lester's "The Three Musketeers" is chock full of sight gags and slapstick sword fights. The result is that "Musketeers" makes a good children's film but nothing more. An almost total lack of character development wastes the talents of a quite impressive cast, including Michael York, Faye Dunaway, Oliver Reed and Geraldine Chaplin. Being something of a romantic, I really wanted to care whether D'Artagnan would return with the jewels in time to save the honor of the queen. Unfortunately, given the pace and style of this film, I didn't care at all.

## REVIVALS

The Committee for Arts and Lectures began a 10-part Buster Keaton series on April 2. Series tickets for the 7 and 9:30 p.m. showings in Wheeler Auditorium are still a bargain at \$10 student and \$15 general. Single tickets are also available at \$1.50 student and \$2 general. I think it

fair to say that Keaton's films are quite simply the greatest comedy series ever made. If you haven't seen them, by all means go. All programs will have musical accompaniment and will be shown in 35 mm prints.

New series at the Pacific Film Archive this month include: Warner Brothers in the '30s; The Films of Howard Hawks; The German Films of Fritz Lang; and the beginning of a series of more than 75 films surveying the history of science fiction in the cinema. For complete details, pick up the Archive's April program.

On April 11-17 the Northside Theater begins a Tennessee Williams Festival with "Night of the Iguana" (1964) and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" (1958). "Baby Doll" (1956) will also be shown from April 14-17. Tennessee Williams was a favorite of mine as an undergraduate and I look forward to seeing how well these films have held up over the years.

## FREE FILMS

Laney College offers Bogart in "Beat the Devil" (1954), the Truman Capote-scripted, John Huston-directed parody of the international spy thriller; on April 4 at 6:45 and 9 p.m. in the College Forum. A free showing of Orson Welles' classic "Citizen Kane" (1941) might be worth a trip to the College of Alameda: April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Building F.

Merritt College: "My Man Godfrey" (1936), a comedy with William Powell and Carole Lombard, and "Buck Benny Rides Again" (1940), with Jack Benny, on April 4; Melvin Van Peebles' "The Story of a Three-Day Pass" (1967) — the first major feature directed by a Black — and "Without Pity" (1948), on April 11. Both programs at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Almost free (25-cent donation) is Live Oak Park's new political series: "Fail-safe" (1964) on April 3; "Advise and Consent" (1962) on April 10; and "All the King's Men" (1950) on April 17. All programs at 7:30, with refreshments available.

—Mike Fullerton

# EVICTION

--grove st.--

Eviction is the common term for the whole process which takes place when a landlord wants to force a tenant to get out. If your landlord or manager tells you to leave, you may be able to stay anyway. To get you out he will have to go to Municipal Court and win. This will take a lot of time. The attorneys' fees, court costs and service fees may cost him \$500-\$600. So you might refuse to move without him following through on the eviction lawsuit. Or you might make a deal, say, to pay half the back rent and leave in 30 days.

Here is what to expect if the landlord tries to evict you. If you've violated any part of your lease or rental agreement (say, for payment of rent or keeping pets), he will give you a notice to vacate in three days. Otherwise, he will give you a notice to vacate in 30 days. At the end of the three- or 30-day notice, the landlord may then go to Municipal Court to file an "Unlawful Detainer" complaint asking for your eviction. You will be served with a copy of the complaint and a summons. *You must respond within five days or seek an extension from the landlord's attorney or you may lose the case immediately.* You or your attorney will write a response to the court and to the landlord's lawyer pointing out the errors of the landlord's allegations. Then you appear in court. If you lose, the landlord will go to the sheriff and show him the court's judgment against you. The sheriff will come and give you a five-day final warning. After that he will bodily evict you and allow the landlord to store your possessions. But he cannot take money from you or put you in jail (unless you resist).

In the meantime, don't worry about harassment. Only the judge can order you to be evicted, and only the sheriff can bodily evict you. It will take three to six weeks (or more, if you get a good lawyer) before this happens. The landlord cannot take the law into his own hands by changing the lock, taking your belongings, taking off doors or windows, cutting off the utilities, etc. If he is dumb enough to do any of these, call the police to have him arrested and get legal help to sue him later for damages.

[From the *Tenant's Law Notebook*, reprinted from *The Fat City Outrage Express* and *P.A.T.U. News*, January 1974]

continued from p. 1

Board is using the proposed pavilion as an excuse to phase out Grove Street, which they have been wanting to do for a long time. Another is an attempt to make good, in a half-hearted way, on the promise to provide a new campus in the area. The third area of speculation involves Peralta Board President Curtis Aller, who is running for Dellums' congressional seat and is looking for some political hay.

## FRYER UNDER FIRE

The district's new chancellor, Thomas W. Fryer, is a moving force in the drama. Fryer has no prior connection to the district, and has been brought in as an efficiency expert to perform such tasks as eliminating Grove Street. In a short time he has succeeded in alienating most of the people involved with the educational process. Louie Shellada, chairman of the Economics Department at Laney, said, "He has not shown the slightest human or educational concern for the people of the district. He's a total automaton." A source from the district office has remarked, "I have never met a man who combines qualities of ruthlessness, ambition and racism to such a large degree."

Despite concerns of the community, Fryer claims that the Grove Street campus is too far south, and the Board voted to withhold \$300,000 which had been allocated for improvements. In its place, the district has come up with the notion of the "learning pavilion," which is supposed to "complement as well as supplement the operation of sister colleges in the area," according to Dr. Young Park, currently president of the Grove Street campus and slated to become president of the Berkeley Learning Pavilion. That seems to mean extension courses, arts and crafts studios, and community-oriented cultural activities. There is no provision in the plan for parking facilities, as it would, Fryer optimistically explained, "be Bart-, bus-, and bike-based, keyed to public transportation rather than the automobile."

## PLANS VAGUE

Many observers feel that plans for the Berkeley Learning Pavilion are as vague as they are because the Board never expected to have to implement them. The plan would serve the function of cutting off Grove Street and showing that they at least made an attempt to provide a northern campus. Certainly Fryer's failure to meet with the Berkeley city council, despite repeated attempts by Mayor Widener to arrange such a meeting, was not an action directed at creating sympathy for the plan among city officials.

Politicos have speculated that Curt Aller is looking for some political advantage in all this, as the provider of a community learning center for Berkeley as a feather in his cap for the election. If so, the North Berkeley and Grove Street communities may not appreciate the lack of concern for their needs. More likely, the political motivation of the Board is related to eliminating Grove Street as a strong center of radicalism.

One note: Board member Booker T. Jackson abstained on the otherwise unanimous vote. It seems he's a lawyer for BART.

—Marilyn Power  
Lenny Goldberg

# council puts part of charter review on ballot

continued from p. 1

no. The council's refusal to place this charter amendment on the ballot prevents any change in Berkeley's city manager form of government for the time being.

The charter amendment to reform election laws nearly suffered the same fate when the first motion to place it on the ballot was defeated on a 4-4 vote, with Hancock, Kelley, Ramsey and Widener voting yes, and Hone, Rumford, Simmons and Sweeney voting no. After a short recess, Simmons changed his vote from no to yes and the measure was placed on the ballot.

Councilmembers Sweeney and Rumford indicated general opposition to the work of the Charter Review Committee and opposed placing any controversial measures on the ballot. Sweeney indicated that he felt such measures belonged on the April 1975 general municipal election ballot. Councilman Simmons, objecting to the racial composition of the Charter Review Committee, kept changing his position as to whether or not the Committee's proposals should go on the ballot. Councilmembers Ramsey and Widener, while voting to place the election law charter amendment on the ballot, indicated that they were opposed to its passage.

## ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

A four-year struggle to pass an ordinance preserving Berkeley's architectural masterpieces appeared to be successful at the council meeting of March 26.

The Architectural Heritage Ordinance was approved on a 7-1 vote, subject only to technical changes yet to be proposed by the city attorney and final council passage. The sole opponent was Councilmember Sweeney.

The Architectural Heritage Ordinance would establish a Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate structures, both residential and commercial, which are worthy of being preserved. Structures so designated would be protected against demolition or harmful alteration for periods of six months to one year. The Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance protects only residential buildings, so that the new provisions of the Architectural Heritage Ordinance will for the first time restrict demolition of non-residential structures such as churches.

The evening's major dispute came over an amendment by Councilmember Kelley that each member of the city council be able to make one appointment to the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The amendment was defeated by the council majority, who indicated that they wished to make all of the appointments themselves.

The Architectural Heritage Ordinance was developed by a sub-committee on Urban Care, who have lobbied unsuccessfully for council passage over a four-year period. They continually rewrote the ordinance to meet council objections to such problems as the hardships owners of landmarks would suffer by having to keep their buildings in

good repair. After numerous trips back and forth to the Planning Commission, the Civic Art Commission and the City Council, it looks like the newest revised version of the Architectural Heritage Ordinance will finally be enacted into law.

## BUDGET HEARING

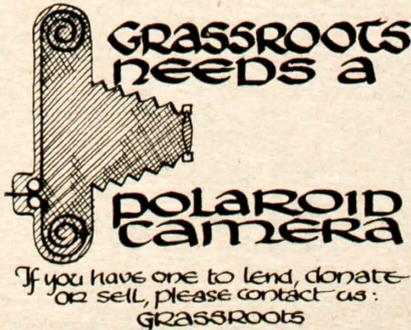
On March 26 the council held a public hearing on budget desires and priorities. This was the first time such a hearing had been held prior to the city manager's submission of a tentative budget.

At the hearing most speakers called for a greater emphasis on providing community services, such as the public library and assistance to the Berkeley Free Clinic, the Women's Health Collective, Women's Refuge, Women's Center, and the Berkeley Emergency Food Project. Speakers from the Ocean View Committee attacked the continued waste of city money caused by the West Berkeley Industrial Park.

The city manager will present his proposed budget to the council by May 1. After that the council will hold further public hearings and then begin voting on the budget and proposed changes, with final passage targeted for the end of June.

## COUNCIL SCHEDULE

The council schedule for April will be regular meetings starting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, and Tuesday, April 16. Council meetings are broadcast live on radio station KPFB-FM, 89.3, on your dial.



# CANDIDATES AND ISSUES IN SCHOOL CHIEF SELECTION

As several Berkeleyans have suggested, it may be the Asian community that selects Berkeley's new superintendent of schools. That will certainly be the case if Gene Roh's comments of March 19 mean what they seem to mean. The only Asian on the five-member board, Roh announced that before he could decide on a choice of candidate he would have to study and evaluate the advisory committee recommendations. He added: "I would discourage anyone from trying to influence me by emotional outbursts." Roh is thus the only board member to announce that he has not yet made up his mind. To meet their own deadline, the board must select a successor to Superintendent Richard Foster by April 1.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The advisory committee mentioned above represents the board's effort to involve the community in the process of selecting a new BUSD boss. Included among its 23 members and staff are representatives of various categories of school employees, parents, teachers, and others from the community; the committee is roughly balanced to ensure adequate ethnic and sexual representation.

It was this advisory committee that interviewed the 11 candidates remaining after the board had reduced the list from 82. The committee had three options: to select from three to five candidates in order of preference; to choose a single finalist; or to reject all candidates.

Since the job involved personnel matters, committee members had to remain silent about what they were doing. A number of rumors sprang up during the selection process; some of them even found their way into newspaper letters critical of the process. Also, often on the basis of rumor, groups and individuals in the community have

expressed support for one candidate or another, a process which only serves to obscure the issues.

Before the board had a chance to deliberate on the committee's selections, the press published the names of the three finalists. Accounts noted with some surprise that all three are Black; however, they neglected to mention that 7 of the 11 submitted to the committee, and 5 of the 8 considered (3 dropped out before the selection) were Black.

### FINALISTS

The three finalists are Dr. Laval Wilson, assistant superintendent of a school district in Long Island, New York; Dr. Robert D. Freelow, assistant superintendent of a school district in Hartsdale, New York, formerly with the Berkeley schools; and Ms. LaVerda O. Allen, educational consultant and long-time Berkeley activist.

Wilson appears quite well-qualified in terms of degrees, publications and experience, but he is not well known in Berkeley, a fact which some consider an advantage. He attended Chicago Teachers College, received an M.A. from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in 1967 from Northwestern.

Freelow, 41, has the appropriate degrees and basic credentials and has worked in the Oakland and Berkeley systems. He was Coordinator for Elementary Integration in Berkeley, among other things, and has been assistant superintendent for instruction in the Greenburg Central School District No. 7 in Hartsdale since 1970. While in Berkeley he was popular, but some observers have expressed doubt that he is

tough enough for the job.

Allen, 42, is a mother of three, the youngest of whom currently attends Berkeley High. She comes from a family well-known for various kinds of activity in Berkeley, the Overstreets. She has taught delinquent girls in Alameda County. She has also taught in the Richmond Union High School and has been a coordinator of intergroup services at Laney College. In addition, Allen has been involved in a variety of political activities relating to anti-poverty and school programs. Compared to the other two finalists she is short on administrative experience, but has talents and abilities which could be useful to the district, as it is faced with the threat of bankruptcy and still-too-low test scores for Black and Chicano children (though the test scores are good compared to other systems). The county would operate our schools if the district went into bankruptcy.

### OPPOSITION

Opposition to Allen stems, according to press accounts, from her "stridency" and "aggressiveness" on racial issues

(charges all too familiar to those struggling for change). She has in the past tangled with some union figures, according to a Berkeley Barb report. Two years ago she presented four controversial proposals for upgrading minority student skills and for teacher accountability. She suggested that (1) teachers be retained only on the basis of demonstrated competence; (2) the district establish a bi-monthly unbiased testing program; (3) teachers be dismissed immediately if 95 percent of their students do not make a two-month gain in reading; (4) the remaining teachers and administrators develop new procedures for permanency and tenure.

As it stands now, two board members, Mary Jane Johnson and Director Hazaiah Williams, appear to support Allen. Two others, Louise Stoll and Marc Monheimer, have not indicated any preferences, though they do not support Allen. Roh is very possibly the swing vote; no doubt the pressure is great, and building.

-Anne Deirup

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# Community announcements

## HEALTH SPEAKERS

The Berkeley Community Health Project (better known as the Berkeley Free Clinic and RAP Center) has a coordinated speakers' bureau. Experienced clinic workers are available to talk to groups, associations, and community organizations about a wide range of topics. These include venereal disease prevention and treatment, drug use and misuse, dental hygiene, crisis intervention counseling, mental health care, the medical care system, Medi-cal, national health insurance, and the Health Project itself. If you want a Berkeley Community Health Project worker to come and address your group or meeting, please contact the Speakers' Bureau coordinator at 548-2570, or drop by 2339 Durane Avenue, weekdays except Wednesdays.

## PRISONERS' CONFERENCE

"The Myth of Rehabilitation" is the theme of the fourth annual Prisoners Conference, to be presented by the Merritt College East Oakland Development Center on Saturday, April 6.

The 1-4 p.m. conference will be held at the Center, 8709 East 14th Street, and is free to the public. Conference sponsors are Merritt and North Peralta colleges Community Services and Reece's Halfway House for Women.

Judge Jacqueline Taber, presiding judge of the Oakland-Piedmont Municipal Court, will be guest speaker.

## GRASSROOTS

As you are all aware, *Grassroots* is presently controlled by a small group of hard-core malcontents who stifle any attempts at deviation from their preconceived "party line." If you wish to put an end to this sort of media control, or if you just want to get in on your share of the immense power we hold over the thoughts of the Berkeley left community, you are invited to come join us every Thursday at 8 p.m., 2022 Blake Street (or call 524-1203), where we map the future destiny of Berkeley and (dare we say it?) the world. We have room for anyone interested in any phase of putting out a newspaper. If you're interested, but don't know anything, that's all right too; you'll fit right in.

## FRENCH PACIFIST

France's leading spokesman for nonviolence, Pastor Rene Cruse, will meet and speak with Bay Area groups in early April (see schedule below). Cruse, whom some call the Danilo Dolci and Cesar Chavez of France, is engaged in a crucial struggle with the French Government over the issue of military conscription in that country.

For more information, contact John Maybury, 524-4582 or 433-2750.

Tentative schedule: THURSDAY, April 4: 4 p.m., French Library, Dwinelle Hall, U.C. Berkeley (courtesy of M. Longree, French Department); 7:30 p.m., Ecumenical Peace Institute, plenary meeting, at home of Rose and Dan Lucy, 385 Bellevue, Oakland (phone 893-9494). FRIDAY, April 5, 8 p.m., Sproul Room, International House, 2299 Piedmont at Bancroft, Berkeley (courtesy of Gretchen Fetterly of the Activities Office). SUNDAY, April 7, 9:30 a.m., First Unitarian Church, off the Arlington in Kensington (courtesy of Evelyn Johnson, the Peace Committee). MONDAY, April 8, 6:30 p.m., Newman Center, Dwight and College, Berkeley, potluck supper.

## GAY MEN'S RAP

Encounter groups - Discussion groups - Ongoing groups. Every Friday, First Baptist Church, Haste and Dana, Berkeley. Raps start at 7 p.m. Community meeting, 9:30. (Not sponsored by the church)

## JOB RAP CENTER

Monday, April 1, 1974, marked three-and-a-half years of operation of the Berkeley Job Rap Center, a non-profit community service for persons with job or lifestyle problems.

The Center offers supportive group discussions to help expand people's thinking about jobs and careers with emphasis on possibilities for alternative vocations and lifestyles. All ages and backgrounds are welcome. There are no fees and the Center is not an employment agency.

Open meetings are held every Monday evening from 8 to 10 in the Education Building of the Berkeley Unitarian Fellowship, 1606 Bonita Street, just south of Cedar Street in Berkeley. The Center is a community service of the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarians.

## OCEAN VIEW

The Berkeley Redevelopment Agency will hold a public hearing Monday, April 15, on its attempt to destroy housing in Ocean View. The hearing will begin at 8 p.m. in the main auditorium of West Campus, Berkeley High School, 1222 University Ave.

The agenda is wide open for organizations and individuals to protest the project. The Ocean View Committee, representing residents in the area, will make a major presentation, and so will other neighborhood organizations.

## MERRITT ANTHROPOLOGY

The current Merritt College anthropology museum display features Australian aborigine art and artifacts, which will be on view in the college administration building through April. Included in the display are bark paintings illustrating astronomical myths and folk tales, ceremonial items such as bull-roarers and didjeridu, boomerangs, and implements. Merritt is located at 12500 Campus Drive, in East Oakland above the Warren Freeway.

# law and order u.s.a.



Since the Hearst kidnap, a number of people and organizations have been approached by the FBI in the Bay Area. According to an attorney with whom I spoke and who asked that her name be withheld, people have no legal obligation to speak to the FBI; if contacted, they should immediately get in touch with their attorney.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Joseph Remiro and Russell Little, allegedly Symbionese Liberation Army members, are being held in Alameda County Jail after finally having been released from San Quentin's Death Row. They have a unique visiting situation in the Oakland jail in that people who visit them must be fingerprinted and are given special ID cards.

In the meantime, two ex-federal agents and notorious Law & Order advocates, John Mitchell and Maurice Stans, are on trial before New York Federal Judge Lee Gagliardi. Gagliardi had granted a number of defense motions to postpone the trial; he has also taken under serious consideration the possibility of declaring a mistrial. He is the same judge who presided over the Black Liberation Army bank robbery trial of Jo Ann Chesimard and Fred Hilton in 1973, when he refused to grant the defendants even a one-week delay after their first trial had been declared a mistrial. Chesimard and Hilton were eventually acquitted of the robbery charges.

## ELMER DAVIS

A Black man, Elmer Davis, is currently sitting in Folsom prison for a crime in which he had no part, and which was planned and executed by White House agents. Davis was in Los Angeles County Jail when the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist was burglarized in September 1971. Even so, he was charged with the break-in. Davis, a self-trained legal expert, is now filing his own suit from his cell in Folsom, against Nixon, Erlichmann, Hunt, Liddy, Krogh and the Beverly Hills police, charging that they conspired to use him as a scapegoat to cover up the Fielding break-in. After the break-in took place, Davis was released from jail and subsequently re-arrested as a parole violator; one of the charges he was apprehended for was the burglary of the psychiatrist's office. He was recently given a parole date of July 8, 1974. This date, however, has been moved to December 8 because he refuses to go to the Folsom work farm, where he would not have access to the prison law library.

## SAN QUENTIN SIX

A \$1 million suit charging that the San Quentin Six have been illegally confined is getting closer to a hearing date. San Francisco Federal Judge Alfonso Zirpoli

has granted a motion to give the Six a complete medical examination, the first in six years. This is also the first time in three years that the Six have been in a room larger than a cell with another person in it (the physician) without being bound and shackled. Judge Zirpoli also granted a motion for improved visiting conditions for the Six with their lawyers, and appointed three experts to examine the conditions of the San Quentin Adjustment Center, and to interview inmates. The three are: Dr. Philip Zimbardo, a social psychologist at Stanford; Dr. Bernard Diamond, of the Berkeley School of Criminology; and Dr. Lee Coleman, a psychiatrist known for his stand against psychosurgery. Recently, the Department of Corrections announced that San Quentin prison will be closed. (On March 4 Judge Zirpoli said: "Till someone does away with San Quentin, we are going to have problems.") However, the Committee for Prisoner Humanity and Justice charged recently that the announcement that San Quentin will be closed is a hoax: according to them, not only will the prison not be closed but two more prisons will be built, one in Vacaville and one in San Diego. In the Department's announcement, the two new prisons should replace, and not be added to, San Quentin.

The San Quentin Six Defense Committee has announced that their petition campaign has met with an excellent response. The petition is addressed to the Appeals Court, and its purpose is to make sure that the indictment against the Six, thrown out of court by Judge Vernon Stoll, not be reinstated. To contact the Defense Committee write: San Quentin Six Defense Committee, 3169 - 16th St., San Francisco; or call (415) 626-0690.

## RUCHELL MCGEE

Ruchell McGee has filed a motion for a habeas corpus hearing, to prove that he was illegally convicted for a \$10 robbery/kidnap charge in 1965. The habeas corpus hearing could be held in April, and McGee might have former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark's assistance. This hearing is of the greatest importance to McGee, because if he can prove that his conviction was illegal it will be easier for him to show in court that he had a right to rebel against his imprisonment in August 1970. The state in the meantime has dropped the murder charge against McGee, and has left kidnap for extortion, which could result in a life sentence without the possibility of parole. Ruchell is currently being held at the Santa Clara County Jail.

-Renato Camarda

## The First Annual Counter-Culture Convention and Freak Fair

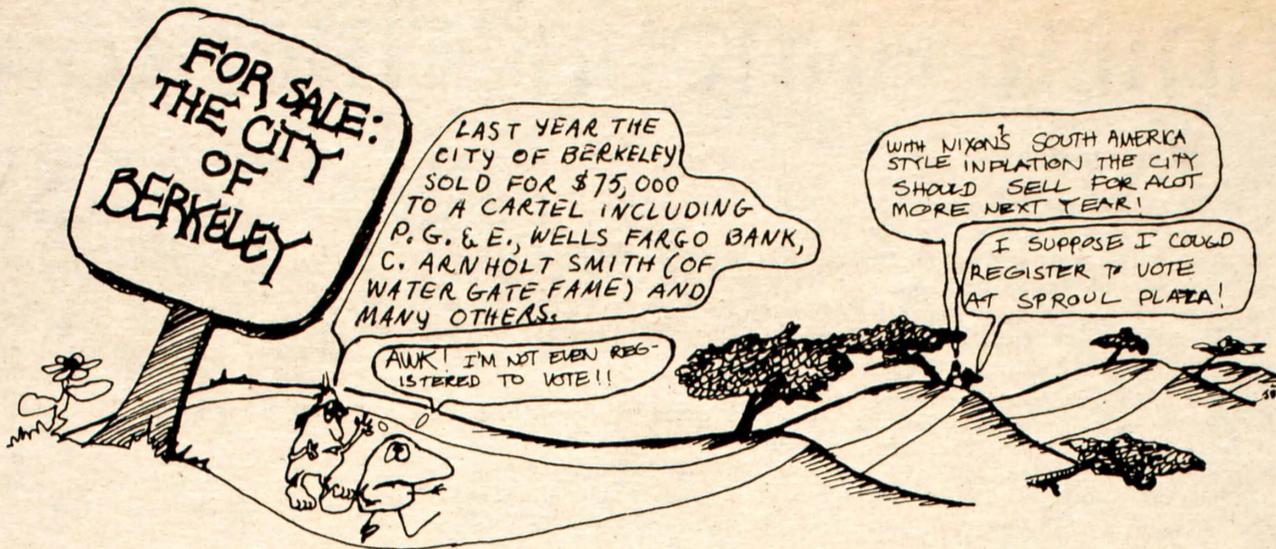
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BERKELEY, CA. 94701

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Individual registration  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Crafts booth  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Food Booth  
 Public Interest Display  
 Established Business  
 Organization  others



## —COUNCIL CO-OPTS SPENDING REFORM—

continued from p. 1

is definitely illegal. Mayor Widener then scheduled the matter for another special meeting on the 21st.

At the meeting of March 21, John Denton, one of the framers of the initiative, attempted to point out to the council that Hone's measure was illegal as it amounted to nothing more than a set of largely inconsequential amendments to the initiative process already on the ballot. (The City Charter forbids amendment of a voter-qualified ballot proposition except by means of an election.) Mayor Widener first ruled that Denton could not address the council without a vote of approval, though private citizens have been allowed to do so in the past when asked to by a council member having the floor. Denton finally spoke after being voted the necessary permission, but was unable to finish his presentation as Widener cut off his microphone before he had finished. The majority then zipped through votes to place Hone's measures on the ballot, in spite of the fact that there had been no public notice at all of discussion on the issue of corporate contributions. Only Hancock and Kelley opposed the action (council members Simmons and Kallgren

were not present). Several observers later overheard council member W. Byron Rumford remark that he voted for Hone's motion only because its inclusion could lead to defeat of campaign reform. Rumford has since denied making such a statement.

### COURT SUIT

The matter next went to court; John Denton and Jeff Rudolph filed suit to keep the measure off the ballot, arguing that the measure should not appear because it was nothing more than an amended version of the already qualified initiative proposition, illegal under the Charter. However, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Spurgeon Avakian let the action stand by deciding, on the basis of what he called a "liberal" interpretation of the Charter, that "amendments" referred to by the Charter meant amendments to an already passed measure, not one that had not yet received voter approval.

### POSSIBLE MOTIVES, EFFECTS

Interpretations vary as to why the majority so badly wanted a second reform measure before the voters. Hancock feels that the object is to draw

votes away from the initiative so that nothing passes. David Mundstock, one of the lawyers who argued the suit, suggests several possibilities, including the desire to create massive voter confusion. Another possibility is that the liberals hope to concentrate efforts on defeat of the initiative and Hone's corporate contributions act, thereby claiming credit for some reform, but not enough to interfere with the corporate funding which was so important to their maintenance of power in 1973. Or Susan Hone may simply wish to steal the credit for campaign reform.

Whatever the motives behind the majority move, voters who try to decide among the measures are certain to experience some confusion. However, Mundstock points out that people can avoid that confusion by simply voting yes for all election reform measures to make sure that the vote in favor of campaign reform is not divided. He contends that the worst thing that can happen is the defeat of both measures. In order to avoid this, people should vote "yes" three times on the nearly identical measures.

—Bruce Haldane

## ufw steps up gallo boycott

A heavy boycott against scab grapes in the Bay Area was urged by Cesar Chavez at a meeting of 50 full-time boycott workers at the Church of St. Joseph the Workman in Berkeley Sunday, March 17. The renewed grape strike seems inevitable as there is nothing encouraging from the fields. The growers are determined to keep feudal conditions through sweetheart contracts with the Teamsters, while the Farmworkers Union is determined to survive and win back the contracts lost last year. Only the United Farmworker contracts provide for pesticide protection, a union hiring hall, elected ranch committees to settle beefs, and sanitation and health for field workers. Wages are not the main issue.

Gallo wines have been hit hard by the UFW boycott during the winter. Chavez said that several big chains in the Midwest

have agreed to take Gallo, scab grapes and lettuce from their shelves. Picket lines or their threat have won over the Shop Rite chain of 40 stores in New York City. Around the Bay, 46 chain stores are not selling Gallo, and noisy picket lines are now hitting Mayfair. Hundreds of liquor stores have removed or covered up Gallo. In the Mission District, 95 of the 100 liquor stores are no longer selling Gallo. Gallo, giant of the industry, is under the boycott hex because it broke the UFW contract last April, signed with the Teamsters, then fired and evicted 125 long-time Gallo workers and their families.

### PHILOSOPHY UNCHANGED

Chavez was the keynote speaker at a conference of the National Priest Councils March 18 at the Jack Tar Hotel. The non-violent philosophy of the union

leadership remains unchanged after brutal sheriff and Teamster goon attacks on pickets last year which killed two strikers. At a press conference after the speech, Chavez announced that picket lines around the struck fields would be renewed and maintained even in the face of the same kind of violence and senseless destruction that went down last year. The union had let up on its mass picket lines after the murders. In the coming strike the consumer boycott of scab grapes is the key to the union strategy for victory, as it has been. Farmworkers are so poor that they cannot withdraw their labor entirely from the fields as in traditional strikes.

### CHAVEZ CALLS FOR ELECTIONS

At the press conference, Chavez was asked by a hostile reporter why he didn't go along with Teamster President Fitzsimmons's proposal for an election to decide the union for farmworkers. Chavez said he had heard of no such proposal, and since the reporter seemed to know Fitzsimmons, he could tell him the UFW was ready for such an election any time. Chavez has been widely quoted as saying, "When it comes to representation, let the workers decide." Thousands of farmworkers have been forced to pay dues to the Teamsters and work under Teamster contracts, though their hearts are with the UFW.

The grape harvest starts in April. "Don't let scab grapes into the Bay Area," says Bob Purcell, coordinator of the Oakland Boycott House. He invites all friends of the farmworkers to a strategy meeting there the evening of April 10 to make boycott plans. The House is at 1424 - 8th Ave., Oakland. Phone 444-6008 for more info.

—Oakland Boycott House



UFW Pickets

photo by Fern

## moderates retain control of co-op credit union

In a low-key election last month, 396 of the Coop Credit Union's 25,000 members chose a majority of the Board of Directors for the Credit Union. Although the voting was close, four of the five Directors chosen were recommended by Zack Brown, former General Manager of the Credit Union and a supporter of the "moderate" slate in the previous Coop Board elections; all of the new Credit Union Board members will apparently maintain the policies of the previous Credit Union Board of Directors.

Luella Hanberry, a "radical" Coop (stores) Board alternate, ran sixth in the race, with 152 votes, against 155 votes for the winner of the fifth Board seat. Ms. Hanberry was attacked by Brown as having a "conflict of interest" because of her active membership in the Credit Union employees union.

There were no mail ballots in the Credit Union elections; members had to vote in Credit Union stores on March 11, 12, and 13, or at the Annual Meeting on March 8. Critics have charged that this is the reason for the low vote-count, and complain that the cost of the mail ballots might have been offset by eliminating the Annual Meeting party and doorprize (a night for two at a S.F. hotel).

Credit Union officials say that they are "looking into mail balloting," but estimate the expense at \$10,000, as against the probable \$300 cost of the Annual Meeting party.

### DIFFICULT TO GET MAIL BALLOTING

Obtaining permission to distribute mail ballots, it turns out, is no easy matter. As a federally chartered credit union, the Coop Credit Union must get permission from the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) to change its by-laws to allow mail distribution of ballots.

There is a standard NCUA by-law amendment to allow mail balloting, but NCUA officials say that few credit unions have adopted it, since it requires complicated procedures for posting nominations and for counting ballots.

### COOP VS. OTHER CREDIT UNIONS

What sets the Coop Credit Union apart from other federally chartered credit unions is only its constituency — Coop members. Most credit unions are either for company employees (e.g., Bell Telephone, UC Berkeley), or are associated with civic groups, such as churches.

The Coop Credit Union is, like other credit unions, a "prudent and provident" financial organization which follows federal charter regulations. "When it comes to peoples' finances, they don't really look upon it as a cooperative," says one longtime Credit Union employee, "they allow a few people to run it."

### COMPLAINTS

Credit Union staff and some members have criticized recent Board and management policies, particularly the new shortened service hours (36 hours weekly vs. 40 previously) and the limited food stamp services. Some also complain that too many Board decisions are made in executive session or in meetings without observers.

The NLRB recently rejected an employee union grievance against the shortened hours (closed until 2 pm on Mondays), put into effect when employee work hours were shortened from 37½ to 36 hours weekly. The previous 40-hour work week had permitted more flexible employee scheduling, and, it was claimed, better service to customers.

—Merry Blodgett